OHIO'S WESTERN RESERVE

The Story of Its Place Names

DAVID LINDSEY

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OHIO'S WESTERN RESERVE

The Story of Its Place Names

by

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and
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FOR MY MOTHER

without whose encouragement this study
would never have been launched

FOREWORD

When I first came to Ohio in 1946, I was struck by the repetition of New England town names like New London, New Haven, Boston, and Plymouth in the old Western Reserve area of the northeastern corner of the state. These were perhaps to be expected, but the eccentric names like Mesopotamia, Mecca, Harscrabble, River Styx, Mogadore, and Novelty were puzzling. Out of plain curiosity on my part, I began to ask questions as to how the places in the Western Reserve happened to acquire their names originally. When my questioning developed unsatisfying answers, my curiosity led me to a systematic attempt to discover the origin of the names of the cities, townships, villages, and crossroads hamlets. Why was Ashtabula chosen? Why Youngstown? Why Lorain? Why Norwalk and the rest? The search, which led me to libraries, historical societies, county and municipal officials, newspaper editors, and informed local inhabitants, has been fascinating and rewarding over a period of three years.

The results of that search, which started simply from personal curiosity, appear in the account that follows in this volume. What is attempted here is to present an answer to the question, "How did this community get its name?" as applied to each inhabited place in Ohio's Western Reserve. The Western Reserve encompasses the twelve counties of northeastern Ohio extending from the Pennsylvania line west to Sandusky Bay and lying between the forty-first parallel and Lake Erie's south shore. Two of the twelve counties—Summit and Mahoning—have parts that extend south of the forty-first parallel, but communities in those parts have been included in this study for the sake of completeness. Included also are those parts of Ottawa and Ashland Counties that fall inside the boundaries of the Reserve, even though the major portion of those counties lie outside. For this reason, Ottawa County communities have been appended to the Erie County chapter, and Ashland County communities to the Lorain County chapter.

Of necessity, limits have been set. Only inhabited places—cities, townships, villages, and crossroads communities—have been considered. No attempt has been made to account for names of rivers, lakes, creeks, hills or other geographic features, except as they bear upon populated communities. In general, those place names are included that appear on the official county engineer's map of each Western Reserve County. Since political subdivisions often change their boundaries and their names, the material presented here relates to the status of communities in existence at the beginning of the year 1955.

To mention all of the persons who helped me with the preparation of this work would require many pages. I am, however, particularly grateful to the following for assistance above and beyond the call of duty: Professor Howard Oagley of Baldwin-Wallace College, whose

artistic pen produced the illustrations and maps in this volume; the Baldwin-Wallace College Library, whose Librarian, Clyde Haselden, spared no effort to aid me; the magnificent Cleveland Public Library, where the History Division staff under Donna Root so helpfully made available the rich resources of that institution; the Western Reserve Historical Society; editor Chester Lampson of the *Jefferson Gazette;* Walter Jack of the Erie (Pa.) *Times;* Paul Denton of the *Painesville Telegraph;* James H. Williams, formerly Norwalk newspaper editor and president of the Firelands Historical Society; Julian Fowler, Oberlin College Librarian; Curtis Haines of Oberlin; Dale Richmond of Amherst; James C. Foutts, Librarian of the Youngstown Public Library; Carl H. Pockrandt and Arthur Blower of the Summit County Historical Society; James S. Jackson, associate editor of the Akron *Beacon-Journal;* Elinor S. Earle of the Akron Public Library; Grace M. Winnagle of Warren; Phyllis Swartz of Baldwin-Wallace College; and countless others whose kindness supplied me with otherwise unobtainable information.

A special note of sincere thanks to that quintet but for whose generous efforts this work would never have seen print—Dean Carl Wittke, Dean of the Western Reserve University Graduate School, for his words of encouragement; C. Howard Allen, former Editor of the Press of Western Reserve University, for his enthusiastic labors; Adelaide B. Curtiss of the Press, for her able editorial revision; Colton Storm, Director of the Western Reserve Historical Society, for his kind assistance; and Jesse H. Shera, present Editor of the Press of Western Reserve University, for his thoughtful help.

For my wife whose forbearance during my many hours of occupation and preoccupation over this study helped make this volume possible, my gratitude.

Finally, if this account may inform and please those persons interested in the origin of place names, it will have served its purpose. Whatever errors or omissions occur, however unintentional, are my responsibility alone.

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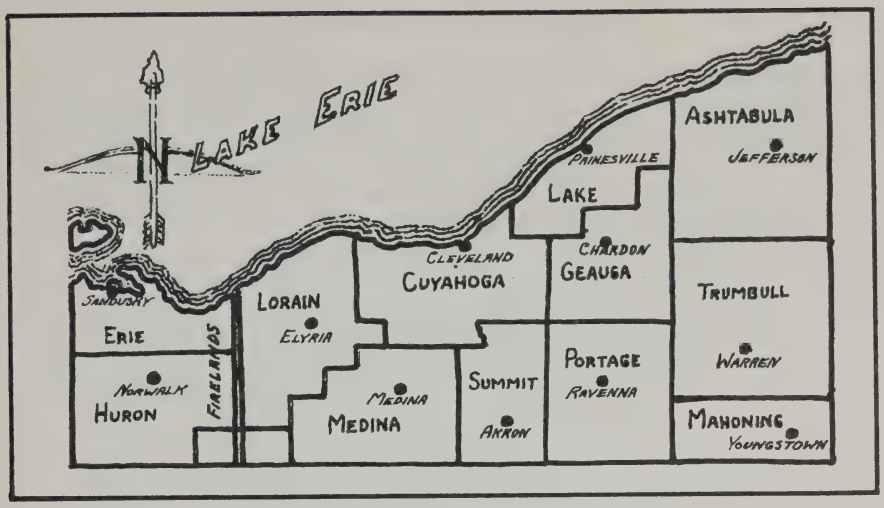
Illustrations and Maps by Howard E. Oagley



I. BEGINNINGS OF THE WESTERN RESERVE OF OHIO

Thirty-five eager men gathered at Hartford, Connecticut, on September 2, 1795, to wager on the future. The gamble was a big one—3,000,000 acres of land west of the Alleghenies to be bought sight unseen. The seller was the State of Connecticut; the buyers thirty-five hard-headed Yankees, associated in the Connecticut Land Company, willing to risk more than $1,000,000 of their own and of twenty-two other New Englanders whom they represented. Their bet was that the land they hadn't seen would sell for more than the 40¢ an acre they had to pay for it.

But then perhaps the gamble was not as great as appeared at first glance. The loose association of partners in the Company were not required to plunk down cash but instead gave bond to the State Treasurer that the mortgage would be paid off in the next five years. Proceeds from the sale of lands, it was hoped, would more than cover the price. The partners' shares in this enterprise ranged from Sylvanus Griswold's small $1,683 investment and Daniel Holbrook's modest $8,750 up to Pierpont Edwards' large $60,000 and Oliver Phelps' whopping $168,185. Each investor hoped not only to recover his investment in full but to double and triple the amount.

The Company, never officially incorporated, turned over its 3,000,000-acre purchase in trust to three trustees—John Caldwell, Jonathan Brace and John Morgan. Responsibility for managing the business was assigned to Oliver Phelps, Moses Cleaveland, Samuel Mather, Roger Newberry and three other directors.

The land along Lake Erie's south shore, now entrusted to these men for management, had been claimed by many men before them. In pre-Columbus years, native Indians had roamed the area. Later, French explorers, bursting into the interior of North America in the 17th century, asserted title for the King of France. The English, slower to

reach the hinterland, made their claim. In 1662 King Charles II granted a generous slice of territory to Connecticut between parallels 41^{O} and $42^{O}2'$ to run from Rhode Island west to the Pacific. Connecticut, having lost pieces of this grant to the intervening possessions of New York and Pennsylvania, determined to make good her claim west of the Alleghenies after the American Revolution. In the 1780's when the states without western land claims called upon the land-claiming states to transfer western lands to Congress for the general welfare of all, Connecticut was understandably reluctant. However, after New York and Virginia had ceded, Connecticut agreed in 1786 to give the United States jurisdiction over all her lands in the West but retained title to the land between Lake Erie and the 41st parallel running west from Pennsylvania's western boundary for 120 miles (that is, to Sandusky Bay). This region, in what is now northeastern Ohio, variously known in earlier years as "New Connecticut," "The Connecticut Reserve" and "the Western Reserve of Connecticut," comprised the land bought by the Connecticut Land Company in 1795.

The Company's directors, meeting at Hartford in October, 1795, pondered on what course of action to pursue. The first step, they decided, was to extinguish Indian claims and then survey the land into five-mile square townships and into lots of salable size. Attorney Moses Cleaveland of Canterbury, Connecticut, with $32,600 invested in the Company, was designated as the Company's general agent in charge of the land survey in the Western Reserve. The following spring, Cleaveland, accompanied by surveyors Augustus Porter, Seth Pease, Amos Spafford, John Milton Holley, Richard Stoddard, Moses Warren and Forty-five other assistants, made the 68-day journey from Old Connecticut to New Connecticut, reaching the Western Reserve's eastern edge on the 4th of July, 1796.

The work of surveying lines of townships east of the Cuyahoga River went on during the summer months. West of the Cuyahoga, Indian titles had not been extinguished and would not be for another ten years; consequently no township lines were run there, although the line of the Lake shore was mapped. The northeast-southwest slant of the Lake shore caused disappointment for the Company's shareholders since it meant less land than the Company thought it had bought. Altogether, the survey showed about 3,450,000 acres in the Reserve. A mutiny among surveyors and helpers in September over poor food and working conditions was stilled only when Cleaveland promised a township (now Euclid) to the disgruntled employees. When the survey party departed for the East in October, left behind were the Reserve's first settlers—Job and Tabitha Stiles at Cleaveland, Elijah and Anna Gunn and James and Eunice Kingsbury and four children at Conneaut.

Mapping of the lands east of the Cuyahoga was completed in 1797. The lands west of that river, ceded by the Indians in 1805, were surveyed during the next two years. The half-million acres at the western end of the Reserve had been set aside by Connecticut's legislature in 1792 to compensate those citizens called "The Sufferers" who had

suffered loss of property from British military raids in Connecticut during the American Revolution. This area, known in Connecticut as the Sufferers' Lands and in Ohio as the Firelands, was distributed by lot to the Sufferers in 1807. Since many original Sufferers had already died, the distribution problem was greatly complicated by an increase in the number of "heirs and assigns" who claimed lands here.

Meanwhile, in 1798 the Company had begun disposing of its real estate. Some land was offered at public sale. But most was distributed in a drawing by lot held at Hartford. In this drawing, title to townships, in whole or part, was transferred to Company shareholders or to other buyers, who then became known as "proprietors." Some townships were retained as "equalizing townships" to be used to make up for swampy, rocky or otherwise unusable land in the townships drawn.

Proprietors began to sell to individual buyers as early as 1798, although some sales had been made by the Company before then. As settlers began to arrive in the Reserve, government units became necessary. In addition to territorial government, established by the Northwest Ordinance of 1787, counties were created—Washington County by proclamation of Territorial Governor Arthur St. Clair in 1788, taking in that part of the Western Reserve east of the Cuyahoga; Wayne County (named for "Mad Anthony" Wayne) in 1796, including the Reserve west of the Cuyahoga; and Jefferson County (for Vice President Thomas Jefferson) in 1797, which was now assigned the eastern section of the Reserve.

In 1800 Trumbull County absorbed those parts of the Reserve formerly in Wayne and Jefferson Counties, commemorating in its name Jonáthan Trumbull, Governor of Connecticut. This is the only Western Reserve County named for an individual. In 1805 Geauga County, erected to include the northern portion of the Reserve, derived its name from the Indian word for the Grand River flowing through the county. The meaning of the Indian word is subject to four different interpretations: (1) meaning crooked and deriving from the same source as Cuyahoga" (2) deriving from "sheauga-sipe" meaning racoon river; (3) deriving from the name of an Indian chief; (4) deriving from "cageuga" meaning dogs-around-the-fire.

The state legislature put three new counties on the map in 1808. Portage was named from its geographic location on the old Indian portage between the Cuyahoga and Tuscarawas watersheds. Ashtabula was taken from the Indian name for the river, meaning place-of-many-fish. Cuyahoga, another Indian term applied to the river in the county, means crooked river, and quite appropriately so. In 1809 Huron County was erected, taking its name from the river running through it, which in turn got its name from the Indian tribe of that name. Three years later Medina County appeared. The name seems to have been transplanted from Medina, New York.

Lorain County came into existence by act of the legislature in 1822, its name honoring the French province of Lorraine that had caught the fancy of one of the county's chief land owners, Heman Ely, who had

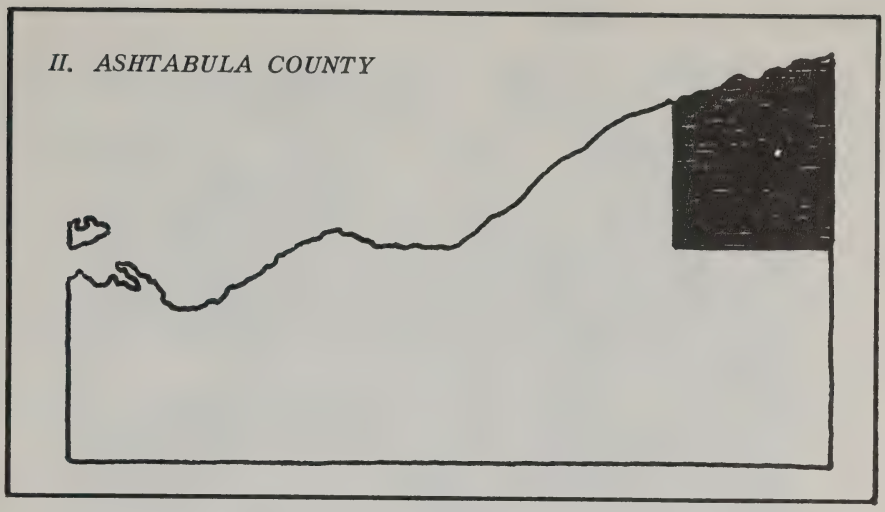
traveled in Europe. Erie County, created at the western end of the Reserve in 1838, was named for the Lake, which in turn was named for the Indian tribe that had roamed northern Ohio before the coming of the white man. In 1840 the legislature carved Summit County out of parts of Portage, Medina and Stark Counties, its name describing the county's location at the high point between the Cuyahoga and Tuscarawas valleys. This change left Portage County misnamed since the old Indian portage, for which it had been named, now lay within Summit County. Also in 1840 Lake County took shape deriving its name from Lake Erie along which it had a longer shore line in relation to its area than any other Ohio county. Mahoning County, established in 1846, was named for the Delaware Indian word "mahonink," meaning "at the sale springs," which were well known in the Mahoning Valley.

These twelve counties comprise the major portion of the Western Reserve. But parts of two other counties now existing were also included in New Connecticut. Ottawa County, created in 1840 to include the promontory between Sandusky Bay and the Lake, plus the Bass Islands, was named for the Indian tribe. Ashland County, erected in 1846, took its name from the town of Ashland, which in turn got its name from politician Henry Clay's country estate at Lexington, Kentucky.

The township in Ohio's Western Reserve, as in New England, was the basic unit of settlement as well as the unit of political organization from the start. Differing from the odd-shaped New England townships, however, Reserve townships were generally uniform in size, comprising twenty-five square miles, with the boundaries running north-south and east-west, making a square five miles on each side.

The naming of townships began with the drawing of land at Hartford in 1798. Usually, an owner who drew a particular township applied to it his own name or that of a member of his family or of his home town in New England. In many cases these names remained after the township was settled. But in some instances, the actual settlers, either resentful of the proprietor or proud of their own accomplishments, changed the name to honor one of their own number or a settler's home town in the East.

The story of how the townships, villages, cities and hamlets of the Western Reserve got their names is told in the pages that follow. The choosing of place names tells much of what the promoters and settlers thought, valued or wanted to remember or to be remembered. Much of the history of northeastern Ohio is found in the story of its place names.



ANDOVER New England Yankees, moving into Ohio's Western Reserve in 1798, brought with them the name *Andover* from a township in Tolland County, Connecticut, birthplace of many of the migrants. Of ancient English derivation, the name combined "an" meaning ash trees with "dover" meaning river. The choice proved appropriate for the new Ohio township with its sparkling streams and ash trees flourishing along their banks.

General Henry Champion, second largest shareholder in the Connecticut Land Company, first acquired Andover township in the drawing for lands held at Hartford in 1798. The hardy pioneers who settled Andover numbered in their ranks Epephras Lyman and Zadoc Steele. Among the town's famous sons, most noteworthy stood "Bluff Ben" Wade, Radical Republican leader in Civil War days, and Clarence Darrow, noted criminal lawyer.

ASHTABULA "The river of many fish" or *Ashtabula* in the Indian tongue clung as the name to the settlement that arose along the banks of the Ashtabula River where it flowed into Lake Erie. Originally, the Indian name was variously translated into English letters as Ochtubulu or Hashtahbulah.

In 1796 when Moses Cleaveland and his surveyors camped on the banks of the Ashtabula River, Cleaveland proposed that the stream and environs be named for his daughter, Mary Esther. As a persuader, Cleaveland opened two gallons of wine and set up free drinks for his fellow surveyors. Understandably, it remained the Mary Esther River—as long as the wine lasted. When the last drop was downed, the name reverted to its Indian origin.

A squatter, Thomas Hamilton, built a log cabin here in 1801 and was soon joined by George Beckwith and Matthew Hubbard.

AUSTINBURG — Eliphalet Austin organized the Torringford Land Company, which in 1798 bought this township from the Connecticut Land Company and suffering no modesty bestowed his own name upon it. Finding prospective settlers reluctant to buy, Austin himself, after suffering an attack by a mad dog and under advice from his physician, moved west to become the township's first resident, in 1799. He was accompanied by Roswell Stevens, David Allen, Anson Colt, Samuel Fobes, and George Beckwith.

BULAH — Located in northern Denmark township, *Bulah* takes its name from a shortened form of an old spelling of Ashtabulah, Indian for "place of many fish."

BUSHNELL — The name of *Bushnell* honors Sedgwick Bushnell, one of Monroe township's original trustees in the early 1830's.

CHAPEL — *Chapel* received its name from an early church located between Austinburg and Jefferson.

CHERRY VALLEY — Cherry Valley, New York, site of a notorious massacre during the American Revolution in which Tories and Indians butchered American frontiersmen,

provided the origin of the Reserve's *Cherry Valley*. Josiah Creery, early pioneer, proposed the name to commemorate his home community in upstate New York.

Samuel Mather, Jr., a large investor in the Connecticut Land Company, drew this township in 1798, but it was not until 1817 that Henry Patch made the first clearing in the wilderness, aided by Zebulon Congdon, Nathaniel Hubbard and Josiah Creery.

CLARKS CORNERS — Lying between Lakeville and Monroe, *Clarks Corners* derived its name from a family of early settlers.

COLD SPRINGS — An old-time summer resort in Austinburg township, *Cold Springs* took its name from the large cold water spring here flowing into the Grand River.

COLEBROOK — In 1798 the land of this township passed from Henry Champion to Oliver Phelps, the Connecticut Land Company's largest shareholder, who in 1808 had it surveyed into 100 half-mile-square lots. The first settler, Joel Blakeslee, arrived in 1811, soon followed by Samuel Phillips, Roswell Stillman and Francis Drake. The town's name was drawn from Colebrook, Connecticut, but when some dissatisfaction developed, it was changed to Phelps in honor of the proprietor. In 1836, however, an act of the state legislature restored the original name.

CONNEAUT — Some early chroniclers identify *Conneaut* as a Seneca Indian word meaning "place of many fish;" others say it means "snowy place;" while the early Moravian missionary, John Heckewelder, holds it was derived from "gunniate," Indian word meaning "it is a long time since they have gone." If "they" referred to the Indians, the early settlers chose a name somewhat less than exact.

When on July 4, 1796, Moses Cleaveland and his trail-breaking survey crew camped at Conneaut Creek, the gateway of the Western Reserve, a dual celebration was held in honor of Independence Day and the opening of the "land of promise." Patriotic veteran of the American Revolution that he was, Cleaveland had his men fire a salute of fifteen rounds, one for each state in the Union—adding a sixteenth for New Connecticut on the shores of Lake Erie. Toasts were drunk, with Cleaveland proposing "May these sons and daughters multiply in sixteen years sixteen times fifty." The place was thereupon christened Port Independence in commemoration of that historic day exactly thirty years earlier in Philadelphia when Congress had cut the ties with Britain. Cleaveland"s journal concluded the story of the day's work: "Closed with three cheers. Drank several pails of grog, supped and retired in remarkable good order."

The name Independence did not last. In 1798 the land was sold to Ezra Wadsworth and Lemuel Storrs. Organized as a township in 1804,

it assumed the name of Salem, but in 1832 resumed its original Indian name of Conneaut. James Kingsbury, the first resident, arrived with his family during the winter of 1796. While he went east for provisions, his baby, the first white child born in the Reserve, died, and on his return Kingsbury found his wife near death from starvation. The next year the Kingsburys moved on to Cleaveland, where the name remains today at Kingsbury Run. Other early settlers included Thomas Montgomery, Aaron Wright, Robert Levi, John Montgomery, Samuel Bemus, Nathan and John King.

DENMARK The origin of *Denmark's* name is obscure, but two explanations exist. Some early inhabitants may have come from the town of Denmark in upstate New York; or sympathy for the Danes, whose capital city of Copenhagen was bombarded by the British fleet at the time this town was settled may have inspired the choice. Caleb Atwater obtained title here in 1798, but eleven years passed before John Dibble, Peter and David Knapp arrived to build their cabins.

DORSET Originally owned by proprietors Isaac Mills and Pierpont Edwards, settled by Joel Thorp, Asa Richardson and John Smith, this township was organized under the name of Millsford in 1828. Twenty-one years later, pioneer Lyman Larrabee persuaded the town fathers to rechristen it *Dorset* in honor of Larrabee's home town in Vermont.

EAGLEVILLE Local legend has it that a pioneer farmer, after spying a nest of eagles, named this community in southeastern Austinburg township *Eagleville*.

FOOTVILLE In Trumbull township, *Footville* was named for a partner in the local sawmill firm of Grant and Foot. Since Foot or Foote was an eminent New England name, Grantville was not even considered a possibility. Samuel A. Foote served as Connecticut's governor, later as United States Senator touched off the famous Webster-Hayne debate in 1830.

GAGEVILLE Located in northern Sheffield township, *Gageville* took its name in 1815 from three early settlers—Joshua, John and Stephen Gage.

GENEVA Probably this community received its name from Geneva, New York, whence many of its pioneers came. But it also is possible that its proprietor Gideon Granger may have suggested *Geneva* in honor of the home in Switzerland of Albert Gallatin, a colleague of Granger's in President Jefferson's cabinet. In 1798 Granger, Caleb Atwater, and William Hart secured title to Geneva. Seven years later came settlers Theobalt Bartholomew, Elisha Ward, Levi Gaylord, and James Morrison, upstate New Yorkers.

GENEVA-ON-THE-LAKE See *Geneva* above.

GIDDINGS In the center of Denmark township, this crossroads took the name of Joshua R. Giddings, famous anti-slavery leader and a founder of the Republican party, who irately stalked out of the 1856 Republican national convention when the Declaration of Independence was omitted from the platform and returned only when it was agreed to include it.

GRIGGS CORNERS Located at the corner of Denmark, Jefferson, Plymouth, and Sheffield townships, Griggs Corners was named for pioneer Solomon Griggs.

HARPERSFIELD Two years after Cleaveland's survey of the Reserve, several residents of Harpersfield, New York, formed a land company and bought from Oliver Phelps and Gideon Granger six townships in the Western Reserve. The original Harpersfield in New York state was named for Joseph Harper, who had moved there from Connecticut in 1771. Joseph's son Alexander, accompanied by Ezra Gregory and William McFarland, built the first cabin in the new Ohio township of Harpersfield in June, 1798. Harper died two months later and was buried at Unionville cemetery, the first marked grave in the Reserve. Other Harper brothers, John and Joseph, followed from their New York home and built Shandy Hall, the Harper homestead, now owned by the Western Reserve Historical Society.

HARTSGROVE A quarter-century dispute over title to this township between Samuel Mather and William Hart delayed settlement until 1822 when the courts decided in favor of Hart. First settlers, George and Frederick Alderman, from Windsor, Connecticut, gracefully accepted the name change from Matherstown to Hartsgrove.

JEFFERSON Gideon Granger, proprietor of this township, personally supervised the survey of the land into lots in 1805. In that year Michael and Lyman Webster arrived from Franklin, New York, while Jonathan Warner and Samuel Mapes came from Saybrook, Connecticut. In 1807 Granger brought in eight families from Maryland to establish a tobacco-raising colony in the hope of selling tobacco to the government for trade with the Indians. Soil and climate proving unsuitable, however, the Marylanders soon departed in disgust. As

Postmaster-General under President Thomas Jefferson, Granger persuaded the Ohio legislature to create Ashtabula County in 1808 with *Jefferson* as its county seat. Honoring his political chief, Granger gave the President's name to his new township.

KELLOGGSVILLE In the early 1800's settlers Martin and Amos Kellogg bestowed their name on Kelloggsville, situated in western Monroe Township.

KINGSVILLE Original proprietors John Buell, Timothy Burr, Elijah White, Theodore Ely, Enoch Perkins, Royal Tyler, and Ephraim Robbins sold the first farm here to Walter Fobes of Norwich, Massachusetts. By 1810 the township was organized under the name of Fobesdale, altered in popular usage to Fobestail. This ridiculous nickname was soon changed to Norwich for Fobes's home town. But when a wanderer named King turned up and offered four gallons of whiskey if the settlers would give his name to the town, thirst overcame sentiment, and Norwich became *Kingsville*.

LENOX The original name for *Lenox*, Millerstown, in honor of early proprietor Asmun Miller, was changed to *Lenox* in 1818 by a group of Massachusetts settlers who wished to commemorate their home town in the Berkshire Hills. Proprietor Gideon Granger attempted a tobacco-raising experiment here in 1807, which ended in failure. By 1815 permanent residents included the Rockwell brothers—Solomon, Alpha and Martin, Thomas Johnson, James Mace, and Christopher Randall, all from Massachusetts.

LEON The origin of *Leon's* name remains a mystery, although it is suggested that it may have been the name of an early pioneer.

LINDENVILLE Wayne township's *Lindenville* draws its name from its numerous linden trees.

MANN This hamlet in southeastern Cherry Valley township was named for the pioneer *Mann* family.

MECHANICSVILLE Located on the Grand River in Austinburg township, *Mechanicsville* derived its name from the mills at the river's falls, set up in 1801 by miller Ambrose Humphrey.

MONROE As early as 1801 Stephen Moulton, Jonathan Harrington, William Moss, and James and William Ferguson cleared part of the forest here. When a township was organized in 1818, the name *Monroe* was chosen to honor the current President of the country.

MORGAN John Morgan, original proprietor of this area in 1798, gave his name to the town. Timothy Hadley, who did the surveying in 1801, Asa and Nathan Gillette, and Eli Porter were *Morgan's* pioneers.

MUNSON HILL This hamlet in southeastern Saybrook township doubtless derived its name from Munsonville in New England.

NEW LYME In 1799 this township passed from the Connecticut Land Company to Elisha Tracy and Josiah Barber of East Haddam, Connecticut. The first purchaser-settler was Joel Owen, who built the first house in the township in 1803. Seven years later Samuel G. Peck and Duren Way of Old Lyme, Connecticut, brought thirteen families here from their home town. Organized officially in 1813, the township was at first called Lebanon, but in 1825 the residents from Old Lyme, forming a majority, voted to change the name to *New Lyme*. The academy here has been in operation for more than a century.

NORTH KINGSVILLE VILLAGE See *Kingsville*.

ORWELL Originally called Leffingwell for its proprietor Christopher Leffingwell, this township attracted upstate New Yorkers—A. R. Paine, Solomon Chandler, William Walters, and Benjamin Babcock in 1817-18. By 1826 when township organization was effected, the name of *Orwell* from the Vermont home town of a citizen was selected.

PADANARAM Originally spelled "Paid-in-a-ram," the name here derives from the book of *Genesis*. Corrupted by popular usage to Padanaram, the community virtually disappeared as the Pymatuning Reservoir waters backed up to cover southeastern Richmond township.

PIERPONT Purchased in 1798 by Pierpont Edwards and organized in 1818, *Pierpont* township has always borne its proprietor's first name. Vermonter Edmund Spear, who built the first log cabin here in 1798, was succeeded by Connecticut Yankees Wareham Grant, Martin Vosburg, Harvey Rockwell and Ewins Wright.

PLYMOUTH The township of *Plymouth* imported its name from Plymouth Hollow, Connecticut, which appropriated the name of Plymouth, Massachusetts, which in turn had borrowed the name of Plymouth, England. In origin, the Old English word "plym" meant plum, which, applied to a river, meant the river along which plum trees grew. Plymouth of course meant the mouth of the Plym River.

In 1805 William Thompson and Thomas McGahhe settled in Plymouth township and were soon followed by David Burnet, Thomas Gordon, and William Foster. In 1811, from Plymouth Hollow, Connecticut, came Zadoc and Warner Mann, John and Arthur Blakeslee, and Titus Seymour. Nehemiah Hubbard was the original proprietor.

RAY'S CORNERS — James Ray built an inn in Lenox township in 1837, and the corners surrounding it were dubbed *Ray's Corners*.

REED'S CORNERS — Simply named for early settler William Reed.

RICHMOND — One chronicler maintains that *Richmond* derived its name from Richmond, Massachusetts, while another holds the Richmond brothers, Cyrus and Edmund, responsible. In 1798 John Kinsman, Justus and Horace Stocking, and Samuel Woodruff became the proprietors. Peter Yateman, Benjamin Newcomb, Samuel and William Tead arrived in 1805.

ROCK CREEK — The village of *Rock Creek* derives its name from the creek that flows through it and empties into the Grand River just west of the village. A ledge of rock jutting into the creek just east of the old covered bridge gave the stream its name.

ROME — Originally known as Richfield, this township took the name of *Rome* upon its organization in 1828. What the village fathers had in mind in adopting the name can only be guessed. Possibly the founders hoped to establish a new metropolis like ancient Rome; or perhaps some pioneers actually came from Rome, New York.

Original proprietor Henry Champion II awarded his land agent, Elijah Crosby, a parcel of land for his services in 1805. Within two tears Abner Hall, William and John Crowell, David and Jonathan Walkley, and Ephraim Sawyer came to settle.

SAYBROOK — Original proprietors Samuel Mather and Josiah Wright were not present when the pioneers wrangled over whose name should adorn the town. At first called West Matherstown, the township changed its name upon its organization in 1816 to Wrightsburg. The many pioneers from Pownal, Vermont, however, resented both names. Realizing that their fellow settlers would not accept Pownal, they finally insisted on the name of Saybrook in honor of Saybrook, Connecticut, from which the Pownal pioneers had come originally. Early settlers included Joseph Hotchkiss, George Webster and Zadoc Brown.

SENTINEL The crossroads community of *Sentinel* in New Lyme township adopted the name from the *Ashtabula county Sentinel*, a newspaper edited for many years by William C. Howells, father of noted author William Dean Howells.

SHEFFIELD The earliest inhabitant of this township was Major Moore, a Revolutionary War veteran, who lived here between 1811 and 1817. Some of his contemporaries were Amos and Reuben Mendenhall, John Shaw, and Chauncey Atwater. The place was originally called East Matherstown for proprietor Samuel Mather. But in 1820 the township's first justice of the peace, John Gregg, proposed naming it for his home town, *Sheffield*, Massachusetts. In Old England the city of Sheffield got its name from the Shaef River that flowed through it. "Shaef" originally meant "sheath", meaning a separation. The Shaef River separated Yorkshire from Lancashire, and Sheffield was located on the Shaef River.

STANHOPE Captain Stanhope, a salty, colorful Scotchman, who ran sailing ships between New York and Panama during the gold rush days, gave his name to *Stanhope*, Williamsfield township.

TRUMBULL Proprietors Christopher Starr, Samuel Parkman, and William Tuckerman of Boston, Massachusetts, employed General Simon Perkins as their land agent in this township. A squatter, Holly Tanner, had moved here in 1799, even before Perkins arranged the survey into lots. By 1825 Daniel Woodruff and other pioneers had arrived in sufficient numbers to organize the township. It was only natural that the name of the eminent *Trumbull* family of Connecticut should be honored. This family had provided many leaders of the "Nutmeg State", including Jonathan Trumbull, governor of Connecticut for 18 years and prototype of "Brother Jonathan", who served as forerunner of "Uncle Sam" as the pictorial symbol of the United States.

UNIONVILLE Located on the western edge of Harpersfield township, *Unionville* symbolized in its name the junction of Ashtabula and Lake Counties.

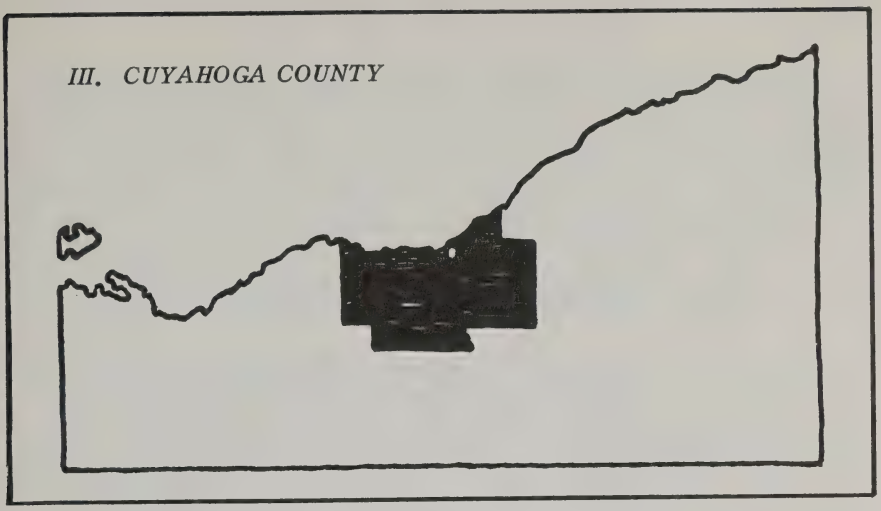
WAYNE Brothers Elias, Joshua and David Fobes cleared land here in 1803. Shortly thereafter Joshua Giddings, father of the famous antislavery leader, Joshua R. Giddings, made his home here. Organized in 1811, *Wayne* was named for "Mad Anthony" Wayne, whose celebrated victory over the Indians at Fallen Timbers in 1794 made his name a household word in the Ohio country.

WICK Reverend William Wick, a Presbyterian missionary, who at the age of thirty-three organized Youngstown's First Presbyterian Church—first church in the Reserve—inspired the

name for *Wick*. In Old English the word "wick" meant a homestead or farm, which when multiplied meant a village, hence appropriate for this community.

WILLIAMSFIELD In 1799 original proprietors Samuel Parkman, John Allen, and Joseph W. Brown sold this township to General Joseph Williams, who gave it his own name. Five years later Connecticut Yankees Charles Case and son Zophar, joined later by John Cook, David Randall, Samuel Tittle, and Anson Jones, made the first settlement.

WINDSOR In the Connecticut Land Company's drawing of 1798, this township fell to Sylvanus Griswold of Windsor, Connecticut. Griswold's brother-in-law, George Phelps, and brother, Solomon Griswold, settled here in 1799-1800. Upon organization in 1811, the township assumed the name of *Windsor*, hometown of the first two settlers as well as of the original proprietor. This name has a royal lineage, being of course the name of the present royal family in England and the name of their principal residence. Windsor in Old England was located on the bank of the Thames River near a set of locks. The "wind" in the name was a shortened form of windlass, used to pull the boats through the locks, and "or" stems from the Latin *ora*, meaning shore, thus windlass on the shore. Although there are no locks on the Grand River, which touches the southeastern corner of the Ohio township, by an interesting coincidence a town in Connecticut named Windsor Locks developed along the Connecticut River.



BAY VILLAGE Separated from Dover township in 1903, the town took the name of *Bay Village* by reason of its location along the lake. The first settlers in what is now the village, were Joseph Cahoon and his wife and eight children, who migrated from Vermont in 1810 and settled on the lake shore at the mouth of Cahoon Creek. Cahoon built the Western Reserve's first grist mill west of the Cuyahoga River on September 10, 1813, the day Commodore Oliver H. Perry defeated the British at Put-in-Bay. The name Cahoon has continued to influence the community. Ida Marie Cahoon willed the ancestral home to the community as a library and gave the land for Cahoon Park.

Matching the Cahoon name for popularity in the *Bay Village* hall of fame, is that of Huntington. A stepping stone inscribed with the name "Huntington" appears at the entrance of the home of John Huntington, whose estate is now Huntington Park in the Metropolitan Park System. Originally a farming community, *Bay Village* has become, under the impact of the automobile, a residential suburb.

BEACHWOOD How *Beachwood* received its name is not known. It may have been part of a comparatively recent real estate promotional scheme to attract residents.

BEDFORD At a town meeting in 1823, *Bedford* township was organized and the name chosen to commemorate the Connecticut home town of Daniel Benedict, *Bedford's* first justice of the peace. In Old England "ford" meant, of course, the crossing of a stream, while "bed" was probably derived from a personal name.

The area, surveyed into lots in 1810, was settled in 1813 by Elijah Nobles, who was followed by Benjamin Fitch, founder of a chair-making enterprise. Other pioneers were Stephen Comstock, Timothy Washburn, Daniel Benedict, and John Dunham. *Bedford* was incorporated as a village in 1852 and became a city in 1940.

A settlement before *Bedford*, probably existed in 1786, when Moravian Missionaries established an Indian mission at Pilgerruh (Pilgrim's Rest) at the junction of the Cuyahoga River and Tinker's Creek, (named for Joseph Tinker, a member of Cleaveland's surveying party in 1796). Bedford township, whittled down in size, constitutes about two-thirds of the original 25-square-mile township.

BENTLEYVILLE *Bentleyville* was founded by and named for Reverend Adamson Bentley in 1831.

BEREA In 1836, John Baldwin, along with Reverend James Gilruth and Reverend Harry O. Sheldon, established what they called the "Community of United Christians." While this communitarian utopia was operating, a post office was set up and in choosing a name, Gilruth urged "Tabor", and Sheldon suggested "Berea",—both names drawn from the Bible. When an impasse was reached, each suggestion was inscribed on the side of a coin, which, being flipped into the air, landed with the *"Berea"* side up. The original Berea, mentioned in Acts 17:10 ("And the brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas by night unto Berea.") is located in northern Greece and is now spelled Veria.

More than a quarter century before the "Community" existed, the Postmaster-General in Jefferson's cabinet, Gideon Granger, acquired the land from the Connecticut Land Company. In 1809 Jared Hickox made the initial clearing along present Bagley Road. A year and a half later, Hickox froze to death when caught in a severe winter storm on his return from Newburgh.

Other early residents included Abraham Fowles, Solomon Lovejoy, Silas Gardner, Abijah Bagley, Enoch Watrous, Ephraim Vaughan, Eli Osborn, Ephraim Meeker, Eli Wellman, and Jacob Ward. It was

Vaughan who built the first saw-grist mill along Rocky River while Ward founded the Methodist society at *Berea* in 1816 which was to have a permanent influence on the community.

John Baldwin, a Connecticut emigrant in 1827, left the most lasting impression of them all. Under his farm in 1837 he discovered sandstone that proved most effective for making grindstones. *Berea* "grit" grindstones became famous the world over in the late 19th Century. Later, in conjunction with the Methodist Church, Baldwin established Baldwin University, now Baldwin-Wallace College.

BRATENAHL *Bratenahl* is the only town in the world with this name—this name honors Bishop Bratenahl of the Episcopal Church in Cleveland. The village was organized in 1904, comprising the estates of Mrs. Sophia Strong Taylor and other prominent Clevelanders.

BRECKSVILLE The proprietor of *Brecksville* was John Breck and when the township was organized in 1814, it took his name. It became a village in 1921.

Breck's three sons, John Adams, Theodore and Edward, settled in their father's town in 1830. Alfred Wolcott and Seth Paine surveyed the land in 1811—Paine staying on as a permanent settler, receiving land as payment for his services.

BROADVIEW HEIGHTS Hilly terrain gave the village of *Broadview Heights* its descriptive name. Once a part of Brecksville and North Royalton, in 1926 its citizens petitioned to incorporate as a separate community. At a meeting in Trapp's barbershop on Broadview Road the request was granted and two weeks later the voters overwhelmingly approved.

BROOKLYN VILLAGE *Brooklyn Village* was given its name "because the name sounded well." It was not in honor of Brooklyn, New York, as later asserted. This village in its original form included virtually all of the west side of present-day Cleveland. In the discussion over adopting a name, Oziah Brainerd suggested Egypt because "so much corn was raised here".

Brooklyn Village was laid out by Moses Fish in 1830, but not incorporated until 1867. Over the years the area has been whittled away, as towns like Ohio City, West Cleveland and Brighton were annexed to Cleveland, and Linndale and Brooklyn Heights Village became separate municipalities. Now *Brooklyn Village* includes only 4.2 square miles between the Big Four tracks, West 61st and 73rd Streets, Brook Park Road and West 117th Street.

Pioneers were James, Moses, and Ebenezer Fish, Asa Brainerd and Isaac Hinckley. Proprietors were Samuel P. Lord and Josiah Barber.

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS VILLAGE — Made from parts of Brooklyn and Independence townships, *Brooklyn Heights Village* was incorporated in 1903. In 1927, the larger part of the settlement was annexed to Cleveland, leaving an area of 1.7 square miles.

BROOK PARK — In 1914, the name of *Brook Park* was chosen by W. J. Sifleet, the village's first mayor, for the brooks that flow through the area on their way to Rocky River in Metropolitan Park.

The village lost territory in 1920 to Cleveland for use as a municipal airport, and other pieces have been taken since for airport use. The Schaff, Smith, Scrivens, Sheldon and Stumpf families are prominent in *Brook Park* history.

CHAGRIN FALLS — The Name *Chagrin* was drawn from the river flowing through this area. One legend, now proven false, had it that Moses Cleaveland's surveyors ascended the Chagrin River in the belief that it was the Cuyahoga, and were "chagrined" to discover otherwise. A more reliable account holds that the name comes from the Indian word "shagrin" or "shaguin" meaning "clear water".

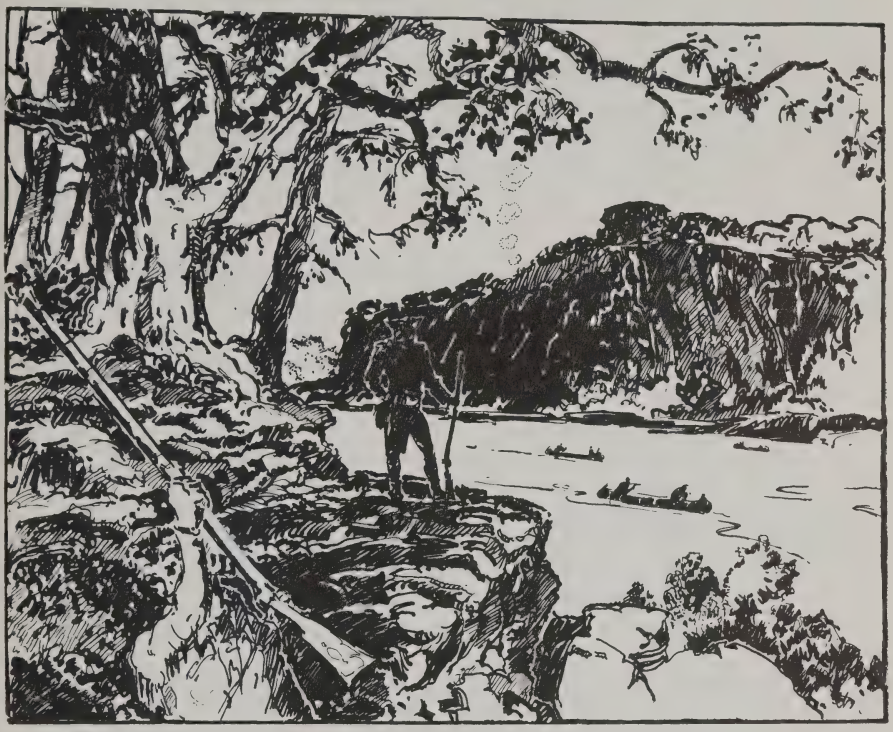
The village was platted in 1857 and later incorporated. Village founders included Serenus Burnet, Jacob Gillett, Caleb Alson, and Benjamin Carpenter.

CLEVELAND — Moses Cleaveland, a former officer of the Connecticut militia in the American Revolution, was the Father of the City of Cleveland. While the dark hue of his skin (which may help explain his success in dealing with the Indians) gave him a swarthy, outdoor look, he was nevertheless a scholarly lawyer from Canterbury, Connecticut, a director and large shareholder in the Connecticut Land Company. Appointed by the Company to lead the surveying party to the new territory of the Western Reserve, he was ably assisted by chief surveyor Augustus Porter, surveyors Seth Pease, Amos Spafford, John M. Holley, Richard M. Stoddard, and Moses Warren, with Joshua Stow as commissary and Theodore Shepard as physician.

On a mild September day in 1796 Cleaveland visited the mouth of the Cuyahoga and examined the bluff on the east side of the river. He reported to his Company: "While I was in New Connecticut, I laid out a town on the bank of Lake Erie, which was called by my name, and I believe the child is now born that will live to see that place as large as Old Windham (then a village of 2,700 people)."

The first map of "A Plan of the City of Cleaveland" (today preserved at the Western Reserve Historical Society) showed 220 two-acre lots, the Public Square, as well as street names such as Superior, Huron, Lake and Ontario. Lots were offered for sale at $50 apiece. The surveyors built a storehouse, a cabin called "Pease's Hotel" and another

cabin for Job Stiles and his wife on what is now West 6th near Superior. After the surveyors left, the Stiles family stayed on, awaiting the birth, January 23, 1797, of their baby, Charles, the first white child born in *Cleveland*.



The second surveying party, arriving in May, 1797, at the mouth of the Cuyahoga, found that Vermonter Lorenzo Carter, first permanent *Cleveland* resident, had already erected a cabin on the east bank of the river (at the foot of present St. Clair) and was building a boat for a ferry, which was soon established at the foot of Superior Street. Carter also developed trade with the Indians, a small group of friendly Senecas still living "under the hill" close to the old Erie Railroad station.

The second surveyors laid out a road to Euclid—now Euclid Avenue—and another road to Kinsman. During the summer of 1797, Gilman Bryant and James Kingsbury moved in to establish homes; Edward Paine opened the first dry-goods store; and Reverend Seth Hart, leader of the surveying group and an Episcopal clergyman, officiated at the first funeral and wedding. Members of the second survey party included Seth Pease, Seth Hart, Moses Warren, Amzi Atwater, Nathaniel Doane, Amos Spafford, Joseph Tinker, Wareham Shepard and Ezekiel Morley.

That Moses Cleaveland chose well the site for the community named for him was clear from the first. The Cuyahoga had long been traveled by Indian parties and its mouth was a strategic spot along Lake Erie. The building of the Ohio Canal, pushed by Clevelander Alfred Kelley to its northern terminus at Cleveland, gave the rising community a population of 1,075 by 1830 as well as assured prosperity as a commercial center.

In a little over a hundred years after its incorporation as a village in 1814 and as a city in 1836 (by which time the second "a" in "Cleaveland" was dropped permanently), *Cleveland's* strategic position in relation to Lake shipping, coal, iron, oil and other resources made Cleveland, plus its environs, a basic industrial metropolis with a population well over a million.

CLEVELAND HEIGHTS — Once called Turkey Ridge and Heathen Ridge, the territory now known as *Cleveland Heights* was acquired in the late 1800's by Patrick Calhoun, a native South Carolinian and grandson of the famous statesman, John C. Calhoun. The name stems from its hilly location east of Cleveland proper.

Calhoun developed a residential section, which by 1903 had 46 families living in the Calhoun tract, known as Euclid Heights. In 1903 the village of *Cleveland Heights* was incorporated with a population of slightly over 3,000. It was over the 15,000 mark by 1922 and two years later the community adopted the city manager form of government. The city is noted for the quality of its government, schools, libraries, and churches, as well as the municipally-operated Cain Park outdoor theatre.

John D. Rockefeller, Jr. gave the city 70 acres of his father's Forest Hills estate. Early residents were the Quilliam, Brockway, Sanbrook, Streiter, Haycox, Lee, Silsby, Minor, Taylor, and Ford families.

CUYAHOGA HEIGHTS — In 1918, 800 persons seceded from Newburgh Heights and formed a new village, *Cuyahoga Heights*, named for the nearby Cuyahoga River. The establishment of the American Steel and Wire Company and the Aluminum Corporation of America plants in this community, have greatly increased its taxable property wealth until it has become one of the wealthiest communities per capita in the country.

EAST CLEVELAND — The name of *East Cleveland* selected because of its location in reference to the city of Cleveland, initially does not appear as a township on the original maps of the Western Reserve nor as a township on present-day maps. Its township existence began in 1845 when it was formed from parts of Cleveland, Euclid, Newburgh, and Warrensville townships. It has had more varied municipal relations and more irregular

boundaries than any other township in the county, with the possible exception of Brooklyn.

In 1846 its western boundary was what is now East 55th, and the southern boundary was the Newburgh line. In 1866 a village of *East Cleveland* was formed, but it was annexed by Cleveland six years later, leaving 15 square miles still in the original *East Cleveland* township. The following villages were created in this area: Glenville, 1872; Collamer, 1872; Collinwood, 1883; Lake Hamlet, 1895; Cleveland Heights, 1901; and Bratenahl, 1904. With the exception of the last two, the others were absorbed by Cleveland. Present *East Cleveland* was organized as a village in 1894 and became a city early in the 20th century.

The earliest homemaker was Nathanial Doan, who settled in 1799 at present Euclid Avenue and East 107th Street. His younger brother, Timothy, came in 1801, and later served as a Cleveland township trustee and as a Common Pleas Judge. Other residents were John Shaw (who occupied a farm where Shaw High School now stands), David Dille and John Ruple.

EUCLID — At the suggestion of a surveyor in Moses Cleaveland's party of 1796, Moses Warren, *Euclid* was named for the Greek mathematician, patron of the surveyor's art. Actually the township was given as a peace offering by Moses Cleaveland to his surveyors, when, in the late summer of 1796, they threatened to quit work because of the hardships of the summer's labor. Forty-one equal lots were distributed and paid for at $1 per acre.

None of the surveyors became settlers, and the land was settled by John Morse, Joseph Burke, Holly Tanner, James Covert, and others. The township was officially organized in 1797, incorporated as a village in 1903, and became a city in 1930.

FAIRVIEW PARK — The name of *Fairview Park* stems from its scenic location near the Cleveland Metropolitan Park. This area was first settled by Banjamin Mastick, Jonathan Spencer, Stephen Jordan, and Russell Hawkins in the early 1800's. Shortly after Goldwood township (no longer in existence) separated from Rocky River township in 1910, some residents broke away from Goldwood and established *Fairview Park.*

GARFIELD HEIGHTS — *Garfield Heights'* name honors President James A. Garfield whose father, Abram, was one of the city's first settlers.

In 1904 South Newburgh became a village. Three years later, territory from Warrensville township was annexed to South Newburgh. When, in 1919, part of the village was detached to form South View (now Valley View), the remainder of South Newburgh then changed its name to *Garfield Heights.* City status was acquired in 1920.

GATES MILLS In 1826 Holsey Gates bought 130 acres in old Mayfield township on which he built a grist-saw mill along the Chagrin River. A community resulted which was incorporated in 1920 as *Gates Mills* Village—named for its founder. The Holsey Gates homestead was restored at the turn of the century and now serves as the Chagrin Valley Hunt Club.

Early *Gates Mills* citizens were James Covert, Peleg Sherman, Daniel Sheldon, and Holsey's brothers, Nehemiah and Jeremiah Gates.

GLENWILLOW From the natural features of the region, *Glenwillow* takes its name. *Glenwillow* had its beginning when the Austin Powder Company moved its plant to the area in 1907. It became a village in 1914.

HIGHLAND HEIGHTS The name *Highland Heights* was suggested by John Herman, Sr., as descriptive of the location. Early village families included the Williams, Lenty, Sorter, Holoday, Kite and Bishop families. Village incorporation came in 1921.

HUNTING VALLEY Located in Chagrin Valley is *Hunting Valley*, named for the physical charm of the area.

INDEPENDENCE Since records concerning the township of Independence prior to 1834 were destroyed by fire, it is impossible to know how the town received its name. Chances are that it was named in honor of Independence Day, still fresh in the minds of the pioneers at the time of settlement.

Permanent homes were made by George Comstock, Samuel Wood, Levi Johnson, Clark Morton, Asa Hungerford, and Archibald and William Harper. The Ohio Canal was built through *Independence* in 1827 with four locks within the township. *Independence* became an incorporated village in 1914.

LAKEWOOD In 1889 four hundred residents incorporated the community of *Lakewood*, a name considered most descriptive of its natural setting. With the extension of Clifton Boulevard and the rise of population to 3,500 *Lakewood* became a city of 1911, known as "the city of homes".

Early *Lakewood* citizens were James Nicholson in 1812, Mars Wager (whose homestead site at Warren and Detroit was taken over by the Bailey Company in 1930), and Dr. Jared Kirtland, naturalist, who introduced grape growing between Detroit Road and the Lake. In origin, this community was that part of old Rockport township known as East Rockport and organized as a town in 1819.

LINNDALE This smallest village in the county originated in 1900 out of a real estate development fostered by George and Robert Linn, for whom the community was named. In Old England

Linndale meant "lime tree valley", "linn" being "lime tree" and "dale" the "valley".

Since the Cleveland downtown Terminal opened, *Linndale* has served as a switching point on the New York Central Railroad for trains entering Cleveland from the West.

LYNDHURST Euclidville was the first name for this town when incorporated in 1917. Confusion with Euclid farther north led to the change in name. In 1920, the town council sponsored a name contest among public school students. Young Bill Emshoff entered, submitting *Lyndhurst*, a name he had spotted on a New Jersey map, simply because he liked it. The judges liked it too, and so did the council which officially adopted the name of *Lyndhurst*, June 8, 1920. Bill is said to have deposited the $5 prize in a bank, thereby starting the fund which ultimately built his service station on Mayfield Road years later.

Earliest settlement in *Lyndhurst* probably occurred in 1831 when Aristarkus, Seth, and Wellman Brainerd arrived, followed shortly by Stephen Stebbings, Daniel Belden, Horace Rudd, and Sargent Currier.

MAPLE HEIGHTS The northern portion of Bedford township was incorporated in 1915 as the village (later city) of *Maple Heights*. The name was inspired by the natural setting of the community.

MAYFIELD At a town meeting, June 14, 1819, *Mayfield* township was organized and officers elected. According to a chronicler, "at a previous meeting the name Mayfield had been selected and county commissioners had approved the selection". Why this name was chosen is not made clear, although the "previous meeting" was likely held in May, which was doubtless the determining factor.

Upstate New Yorkers Abner and Samuel Johnson, David Smith, Seth Mapes, Daniel Smith and Adad Overacker were original settlers. *Mayfield* township no longer exists as such. Gates Mills, Lyndhurst, Highland Heights, and Mayfield Heights have been taken from it, leaving only the village of *Mayfield*, organized in 1920.

MAYFIELD HEIGHTS See Mayfield. *Mayfield Heights* broke off from Mayfield Village and was organized as a separate village in 1925.

MIDDLEBURGH HEIGHTS Watertown township was organized in June, 1818, but in September of that year the citizens voted to change the name to *Middleburgh* for the New York home town of pioneers Ephraim Vaughn, Silas Becket and Silas Gardner (see Berea).

The village of *Middleburgh*, organized in 1927, is what remained of the township after Berea and Brook Park broke away. The land in this

town was originally owned by Gideon Granger of the Connecticut Land Company.

MORELAND HILLS — The name *Moreland Hills* (formed in 1929) was likely chosen to describe the varied scenic beauty of this village.

NEWBURGH HEIGHTS — Just how the name of *Newburgh Heights* was chosen does not appear in what remains of the Village's early annals, but it is highly probable it was named for Newburgh, New York, home of many pioneers. Early settlers were William Wheeler, Philip Brower, and Darius Warner. Wheeler built a grist mill in 1799 at the falls on Mill Creek for which David Bryant made a pair of mill stones. One of these was later moved to Cleveland's Public Square. Present *Newburgh Heights* was incorporated as a village in 1904.

NORTH OLMSTED — The families who settled what is now *North Olmsted* first named it Kingston and then Lenox for towns in upstate New York and in western Massachusetts. In 1829, however, Charles Olmstead (whose large tracts of land were given to him by the first proprietor, his father, Aaron Olmstead) offered his library if the community would take his father's name. The offer was accepted. As in the case of Cleveland, the "a" was eventually dropped. Pioneer settlers were James Greer, Elijah Stearns (who bought 1,002 acres on Butternut Ridge), Isaac Scales, Samuel Hoadley, Zenas Barnum, Charles Usher, Lucius Adams, and seven Fitch brothers.

NORTH RANDALL — Plank Road Station, so called for the plank road from Newburgh to Warrensville during the mid-19th century, was the first name for *North Randall*. Then came Randall Station with the building of the Cleveland and Mahoning and the Atlantic and Great Western Railroads in the 1860's. Randall Station was named for Alexander W. Randall, postmaster-general of the United States in President Andrew Johnson's cabinet. In 1908 the village was incorporated as *North Randall* and is now famous for its horse racing track.

NORTH ROYALTON — With persistence and the familiar gallon of whiskey, pioneer Knight Sprague (blind, but the builder of the town's first town hall) succeeded in having *North Royalton* named for his home town, Royalton, Vermont. The township was organized in 1818 and the village in 1927. North Royalton stands at one of the highest points in the Western Reserve—1,238 feet above sea level. Settlers were Robert Engle, John Coates, and David Sprague.

OLMSTED TOWNSHIP — See North Olmsted.

OLMSTED FALLS — See North Olmsted.

In the late 1820's when Watrous Usher built a saw mill at the falls of the west branch of the Rocky River, *Olmsted Falls* had its beginnings. Charles Olmstead's gift of 500 books for a library gave the settlement a center around which to build (see North Olmsted). Finally, in 1856, the village of Olmsted Falls, named for the early proprietor and the falls on the river, was organized. It has remained as it originated, primarily a residential community.

Uriah Kilpatrick built a grist mill here about 1830, but he was notoriously slow in serving customers. One dissatisfied customer wrote this poem about the miller:

Iron beetles are seldom found
But basswood justices abound.
On the banks of Rocky River,
Tall Kilpatrick's nose doth quiver;
There he sits in his slow mill
Which most folks think is standing still.

ORANGE — Like many Western Reserve communities, *Orange* township was named for a New England town—Orange, Connecticut. Abram Garfield, father of the President, settled in *Orange* about 1839 and his famous son, James, was born in a log house in *Orange*, November 19, 1831. Uncle Amos Boynton, living on an adjacent farm, gave the young widowed mother much help in bringing up the Garfield children. Serenus Burnett moved to *Orange* in 1815, followed by Jesse Kimball, Rufus Parsons, and Thomas King. The township was organized in 1820.

PARKVIEW — On the western edge of the Rocky River section of Metropolitan Park is the village of *Parkview*, created in 1925. The name must have seemed appropriate to the citizens.

PARMA — First known as Greenbriar because of a widespread thorny creeping vine, the township of *Parma* was organized in 1826. Parma in upstate New York, where the rage for classical Italian names was common in the early 19th century, probably was the inspiration for the latter name. The township became a village in 1924 and a city a few years later.

Early land owners were Tickerman, Sly, Blake, Plympton, and others. Families began to arrive in 1816 with Benjamin Fay. Fay established Fay's Inn in 1819, replaced it with a brick building in 1832, and lived to the ripe age of 85. Conrad Countryman, known as the "Mohawk Dutchman" came later, followed by Pelatiah Bliss and Asa Emerson.

PARMA HEIGHTS — See Parma. *Parma Heights*, a region of some four square miles, withdrew from Parma to become a separate village in 1911.

PEPPER PIKE — An old wood plank road and a Pepper family who lived along it, gave *Pepper Pike* village its name. It was incorporated in 1925.

RICHMOND HEIGHTS — In 1917, the southeastern area of the original Euclid township was incorporated as the village of Claribel. A year later it was changed to *Richmond Heights*. The reason for the change is not recorded.

RIVER EDGE — This smallest township, with fewer people than any other municipality in the county, takes its name from its location bordering Rocky River.

ROCKY RIVER — The name of the city of *Rocky River* is drawn from the river that forms the city's eastern boundary. The land first attracted Philo Taylor in 1806 when he made a verbal agreement with owners Elisha Whittlesey and Harmon Canfield to buy the land at the mouth of the Rocky River. He was to be disappointed two years later when these men reclaimed their land. Daniel Miner from Homer, New York, bought Taylor's improvements which included a cabin on the river's east bank. George Peake, a mulatto who had been with General Wolfe's army at the capture of Quebec, Datus Kelley, Chester Dean, and Nathan Alger also moved into the area. Rufus Wright opened a tavern in 1816 at the site of the present Westlake Hotel. *Rocky River* incorporated as a village in 1892 and as a city in 1930.

SEVEN HILLS — The western part of the original Independence township became an incorporated village in 1926 and drew its name from the natural setting.

SHAKER HEIGHTS — The religious sect of Shakers, a remarkable mixture of emotion and practicality, are commemorated in the naming of *Shaker Heights*. By 1827 they had purchased 1,366 acres in the area and were persuaded by Ralph Russell, a recent convert, to establish the North Union Community, known locally as "The Valley of God's Pleasure". The Shakers' religious practices and worship carried them into rocking emotional outbursts that literally set them "shaking". They believed that the second coming of Christ had already occurred in the person of Ann Lee and that the saints were now judging the world. All persons, therefore, should prepare for the Judgment, and celibacy was the order of the day.

The members of the order lived as "brothers" and "sisters" in several "families" of 100 persons, holding all property in common.

Extremely industrious, they developed a variety of mills and domestic manufacturing. In the late 19th century, however, for want of new members the community declined rapidly and offered its property for sale. It was then that brothers Oris P. and Mantis J. Van Sweringen began real estate operations by acquiring the 1,400 acres of Shaker land. Developing the rapid transit line to provide speedy transportation to downtown Cleveland, the brothers began building and promoting a first-class suburb on a grand scale. By 1911, the community was incorporated as a village and by 1920 population was 3,000. In 1930, with a population of 17,000, *Shaker Heights* became a city.

SOLON — When *Solon* township organized in 1825, argument developed whether to call it Bulltown for Samuel Bull or Robbinsburg for James Robbins—two settlers who built cabins in the area in 1820. A compromise was adopted, however, in favor of Solon, the middle name of Bull's second son, Lorenzo Solon Bull. In 1927 Solon Center became the nucleus of present *Solon* village and *Solon* township passed out of existence.

SOUTH EUCLID — For name, see Euclid. The first important activity in the southern part of Euclid township developed in 1852 when Duncan McFarland opened a quarry on Nine Mile Creek. By the 20th century the quarries gave way to real estate development and *South Euclid* became an incorporated village in 1917 and a city in 1940.

STRONGSVILLE — John S. Strong, land agent, and Caleb Strong, Senator and Governor of Massachusetts, were remembered in the naming of *Strongsville*. Incorporated as a village in 1927, it is the only original Cuyahoga County township that remains intact—five miles on a side.

Caleb Strong and Oliver Ellsworth, both among framers of the United States Constitution, were co-owners of *Strongsville*. Neither owner went west, but they sent John S. Strong as their land agent. In 1816 he arrived with Elijah Lyman, Guilford Whitney, William Fuller, and Obediah Church, driving from Connecticut in sleighs. Within a few years they were joined by John Hilliard, Edwin Porter, James Nichols, James Bennett, Dr. Benjamin Olds, Zarah D. Howe, and Ansel G. Pope. The first town meeting, held in 1818 at John Strong's house, organized and named the township in honor of the host of the meeting. Benjamin Northrup from Albion, New York, set up a mill on Rocky River (near present Peal Road) and called the place Albion after his home town—a name that still persists in Albion Road, along which John D. Rockefeller lived for a while as a boy.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS — *University Heights* became Idlewood village in 1908. When John Carroll University expanded its campus here, the name was changed to *University Heights* in 1925.

VALLEY VIEW — *Valley View* became an incorporated village in 1919, taking the name of *Valley View* because of its location in sight of the Cuyahoga Valley.

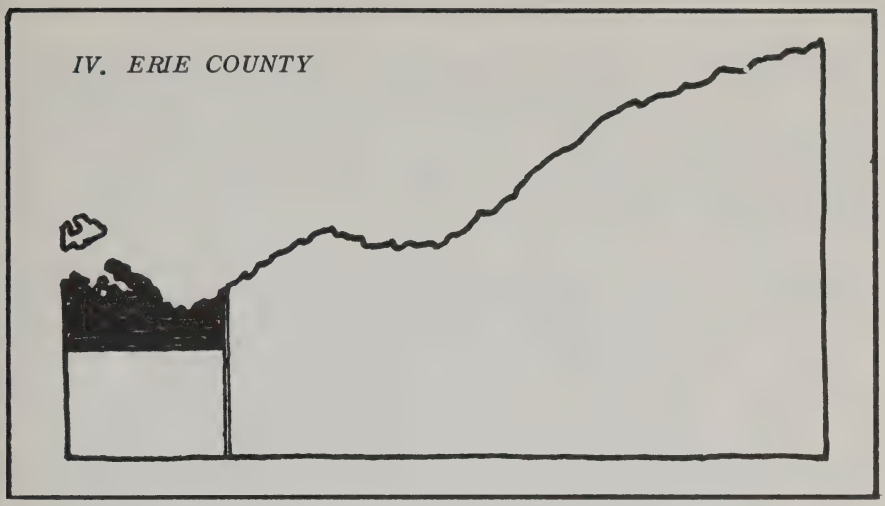
WARRENSVILLE — Mrs. David Warren, mother of seven, who with her husband and children walked from New Hampshire to the *Warrensville* area in 1908, was given the privilege of choosing a name. Understandably proud, she named it for her family. Other townsmen were James Prentiss, Asa Stiles, and Peleg Brown.

WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS — See Warrensville. In 1926 this community incorporated as a village separate from the township.

WEST VIEW — *West View* received transportation facilities when the Cleveland, Columbus, and Cincinnati Railroad built a station in *West View* in 1849. The name was doubtless selected because the railroad pointed men's thoughts westward at this point. The village was incorporated in 1928.

WESTLAKE — Organized as a township in 1812, this community was known as Dover for Dover, Massachusetts, for more than a century and a quarter. In 1940, to avoid confusion with Dover in Tuscarawas County, *Westlake* adopted its present name because of its position near the Lake west of Cleveland.

Settlement began in 1810 when owners Nehemiah Hubbard and Josiah Stow sold land through their land agent, Datus Kelley, to Joseph Cahoon, who settled at the mouth of Cahoon Creek. Asahel Porter, Leonard Porter, Leverett Johnson, Philo Taylor, and the Clague family were among the pioneer settlers.



AVERY — A military officer of the War of 1812 is remembered in the naming of *Avery*. It was first known as Fort Avery because of the fort built for protection against Indian and possible British raids. See Milan regarding early settlement.

BAY VIEW — *Bay View* takes its name from its location on the shores of Sandusky Bay. This community was incorporated as a village in 1951.

BERLIN — The principal Connecticut proprietor, a Mr. Eldridge, gave his name to this township at the time of its organization in 1817. But when proprietor Eldridge became unpopular because of his high land prices, the name was changed to *Berlin* in 1832. One story has it that since the name change was made at the time of the European Berlin-Milan treaty and since there was already a Milan in Erie County, Berlin was considered appropriate. Early settlers John Hoak, George Miller, Nathaniel Burdue, and Benjamin Pratt arrived in 1808.

BERLIN HEIGHTS — The village of *Berlin Heights* took its name from its parent township. Several years after the first settlement in 1808, Henry Hoak and John Fleming brought in apple trees from Canada. With nearby Lake Erie tempering the climate, the trees prospered, and fruit raising soon became the village's principal occupation and source of prosperity.

An unusual conflict developed in *Berlin Heights* in the 1860's. Some Communitarians established the "Point Hope Community" with property held in common. Local residents called the community folk "free lovers" and heaped scorn and abuse on their heads. In such an unfriendly atmosphere, the community folded after a year's run.

BIRMINGHAM *Birmingham* was settled in the early 19th century and originally called Mecca. Because there was already a Mecca in Trumbull County, the name was later changed, but why it was changed to *Birmingham* does not appear in the records. The name stems from Birmingham, England, which means "the farm of Boermund's people".

BLOMMINGVILLE How this community that sprang up along an old Indian trail received its name, is unknown. Abiather Shirley, who opened a hotel in 1812, and Abner Young, who laid out town lots in 1817, gave the town its name.

CASTALIA Cold Creek was the descriptive, but prosaic name originally attached to *Castalia.* Because of the constant flow of cold water forming the famous "Blue Hole", the name was later changed to *Castalia* reminiscent of the fountain of perpetual fresh water at the base of Mount Parnassus in ancient Greece. The village was laid out by Marshall Burton in 1836.

CEDAR POINT In 1839, A. M. Porter, proprietor of the Steamboat Hotel in Sandusky, bought *Cedar Point*, the low-lying spit of land at the eastern edge of Sandusky Bay at 66¢ an acre and lumbered off the cedar trees for which the point was named. Although Adolph Stoll leased the land in the 1870's and built a boathouse, landing, bathhouse and boardwalk, the resort possibilities were not realized until George Boeckling took over in 1897. By building a road to connect with the mainland, Boeckling developed a resort that now attracts thousands of visitors annually.

CEYLON A romantic soul, whose name is lost to history, fastened the name of the island of Ceylon off the southern coast of India, to this little community. *Ceylon,* unromantically enough, owes its start to the building of its station on the Cleveland and Toledo Railroad in 1853.

FLORENCE When organized in 1817, *Florence* had been called Jessup for Ebenezer Jessup, one of its proprietors. By 1817, Ebenezer's greed for high prices made him unpopular, and the township was renamed *Florence*, probably for an early settler's wife. Jabez Wright surveyed the area in 1807, and the first farm was established by Ezra Sprague in 1809.

GROTON Like many townships in the Western Reserve, *Groton* experienced several names. Indians had called the region Pipe Creek because the clay found in the creek banks was well adapted to making pipes. After the American Revolution, the land was sold to Latham Avery and Samuel Wheat, who christened it Wheatsborough. But when the township was officially organized in 1834, the townsmen, out of resentment for land speculator Wheat, named the area

Groton after their home town in Massachusetts. Jonathan Sprague and Squire Riley came in 1809 and Captain Seth Harrington in 1811.

HURON — In 1817 this township was organized under the Indian name of *Huron*. Located on Lake Erie at the mouth of the Huron River, it attracted Wyandot Indians because of the good fishing and sugar maples nearby. As early as 1749, the French built a trading post and crude fort on the east bank of the river. They soon departed, only to be followed by another Frenchman, Jean Baptiste Flammond, who built another post in 1804. Jared Ward was the first Connecticut Yankee to arrive in 1808. By 1840 *Huron* had grown into a thriving community, but soon began to lose business to nearby Milan, which had built a canal to the Huron River and was shipping wheat out to Lake Erie and eastward. *Huron* recovered some of its former prosperity with the erection of coal and ore docks and the building of the Wheeling and Lake Erie Railroad to a terminus at *Huron* in 1878.

JOHNSON'S ISLAND — This small island in Sandusky Bay was named for its owner and occupant, L. B. Johnson, who leased the island in 1861 to the United States Government to be used as a prison camp for Confederate prisoners of war. The first prisoners were interned in 1862, the number reaching 3,000 at one point during the Civil War.

To keep the prisoners under control, a plank stockade eighteen feet high with a guard walk near the top, was built around 18 acres, and several wooden barracks were constructed inside this enclosure. Despite these precautions, Confederate agents attempted a rescue of the Johnson's Island prisoners by seizing possession of a ship from Canada. The plot was foiled, however, by the quick thinking of the captain of the United States gunboat, *Michigan*. Today the Confederate cemetery in the northeastern corner of *Johnson's Island* (owned by the Daughters of the Confederacy since 1905) contains the graves of 206 prisoners. A statue of a Confederate soldier was dedicated there in 1910.

KELLEYS ISLAND — Under the ownership and direction of two Kelley brothers, for whom the island was named, the islanders prospered in the mid-19th century. Once known as Cunningham's Island for an early trader, it was renamed in 1833 by the new owners, Datus and Irad Kelley, brothers of the better-known Alfred Kelley of Cleveland, all of whom came from Oneida County, New York. The Kelleys began lumbering and quarrying operations and shipped out large quantities of timber and stone. They also sold lots, and by 1840 there were 68 islanders. The first vineyard was planted in 1846 and in 1850 the island boasted the only wine cellar north of Cincinnati.

As steelmaking grew to importance in the late 19th century, the limestone quarries on the island took on new prominence under the management of the Kelley Island Lime and Transport Company, which

managed quarrying operations from 1891 until closed down in the 1930's. This is the largest American island in Lake Erie, containing almost 3,000 acres.

MARGARETTA A mother, sister, and several nieces, all named Margaret, are remembered in the naming of *Margaretta* township. In the beginning this area was known as Patterson for Hugh Patterson, a British trader with the Indians. During the War of 1812, however, the rumor spread that Patterson was stirring the Indians against the American settlers. The latter met at Huron and formally resolved, July 4, 1812, that it was wrong for the township to bear "the name of so disreputable a character". The matter was then referred to Major Frederick Falley, who held an option to buy the township. He replied that his mother, sister and several nieces were named Margaret, and proposed *Margaretta* as the town name.

Although Falley brought in many new settlers and lived in *Margaretta* himself until his death in 1828, he was unable to make the necessary payments for purchase. The township eventually reverted to the original proprietors, Ebenezer Jessup and Jessup Wakeman. The names of Dorcatus Snow and Uriel Putman are prominent in the town's early history.

MILAN After the War of 1812 Ebenezer Merry platted the village, *Milan*, which at first bore the name of Beatty for Rev. John Beatty, an early minister in the region. When it was incorporated in 1833, Europe's Berlin-Milan Treaty was in the news and the residents probably chose the name *Milan* from that event.

In 1787 a band of Christian Indians of the Delaware tribe established a village on the east bank of the Huron River under the guidance of the Moravian missionary, David Zeisberger. This mission, called New Salem and located a mile or two north of present *Milan*, was abandoned in 1794. Ten years later another Moravian missionary, Christian Dencke, brought Indians from Canada, built log cabins and a chapel and renamed the settlement, Pequoting, meaning "pay nothing".

Milan's most famous son is Thomas A. Edison, born in 1847 when the community was enjoying great prosperity based on the shipment of grain via the *Milan* canal to Lake Erie and eastward. Other names in the early *Milan* files are Jared Ward, Charles Parker, David Abbott, Ebenezer Avery, Samuel Hughes, and Guy Richards.

OGONTZ An old Ottawa Indian chief who lived near Sandusky Bay gave his name to *Ogontz* village. Financier Jay Cooke, who was reared at Sandusky, then took this name east with him and gave it to his country estate at Jenkintown, near Philadelphia.

OXFORD Like many town names in the Western Reserve, *Oxford's* was brought in by settlers from Connecticut. Its original meaning designated the point on a river where oxen forded the stream.

Proprietors were Ebenezer Hurburt, Hezekiah Ripley, Samuel Belden, and James Rogers. Six early families came from Conneaut, Pennsylvania—Jonathan Sprague's, his son's, three families of Dunhams, and Linas Ensign's. The Indians moved away when David Abbott bought 800 acres on both sides of the Huron River and moved his family there in 1810. Other pioneers—Jared Ward and Charles Parker—arrived soon after.

PERKINS First known as the "Yankee Settlement", *Perkins* township upon organization in 1818 took the name of the Perkins family among whom Thomas, Nathaniel, Lucretia, and Ellen were the principal proprietors. Other proprietors were Oliver Champion and Nathaniel Woodbridge. *Perkins'* history includes such names as Rev. John Beatty, Thomas James, James Forsyth, John Freese, and Christian Winters.

SANDUSKY Early in its history *Sandusky* was recognized as a strategic spot along Lake Erie. A band of Wyandots made a settlement in 1740. Later Pennsylvania fur traders established a trading post known as Fort Sandoski, for which *Sandusky* was

eventually named. This Fort was town down by the French in 1748 and rebuilt by the English two years later. The name is derived from the Indian word meaning "at the cold water".

After the first Yankees arrived during the War of 1812, the village was called Ogontz for an old Ottawa chief. In 1816 Zalmon Wildman platted a new community on the same site and called it Portland. The following year, another Connecticut promoter, Isaac Mills, made a deal with Wildman to lay out a still larger village and rename it *Sandusky*.

VENICE The name *Venice* was chosen because of the town's watery location on Sandusky Bay. Under the impetus of flour milling and lake shipping, *Venice* at the mouth of Cold Creek once formed a larger community than nearby Sandusky. As lake ships grew in size, however, they found it impossible to enter the Bay channel leading to *Venice* and the community declined in importance.

VERMILION The township of Vermilion, organized in 1818, took the name of the nearby river which had been named by the French for the red clay of the river banks. For years Ottawa Indians had been coming from miles around to obtain the clay for their war paints. *Vermilion* was a ship-building port for a time, launching its first vessel, the "Friendship" in 1815. More recently it has become a popular summer resort with yachting, swimming and boating the principal attractions. Remembered in its history are William Haddy, William Austin, George Sherarts, Horatio Perry, Guy Richards, Fred Stanley, John Prentice, and Almon Ruggles.

OTTAWA COUNTY

CATAWBA ISLAND Because of the sandy soil and Lake-tempered climate, grapes and later peaches did well on *Catawba Island*, which is actually not an island, but a peninsula jutting into Lake Erie. The Catawba grape was for a time most popular—hence the name. Catawba was the name of an Indian tribe in the Carolinas that was applied to grapes. Earlier known as Van Rensalaer and later as Ottawa City, the peninsula took its present identification when grape-raising was introduced in the mid-nineteenth century. *Catawba Island* is now a leading grape and peach-raising community, shipping to all parts of the country.

DANBURY The board of directors of the Sufferers Land Proprietors Association named *Danbury* in 1803 in honor of Danbury, Connecticut, which had suffered destruction by the British in July, 1779. Proprietors were Zalmon Wildman and Epaphroditus Bull. When the first settlers—Benajah Wolcott and Joseph Ramsdell—came in 1809 to 1811, they found French Canadians already living in *Danbury*. Township organization occurred before 1820—the exact date lost with the records.

GIBRALTAR ISLAND This rocky island rising sharply from the water at the west end of Put-in-Bay so resembled "The Rock" fortified by the British at the western entrance to the Mediterranean Sea, that the name *Gibraltar* was a natural. Jose de Rivera, the Spainard who introduced grape culture to the Bass Islands, sold *Gibraltar* to the Sandusky-born financier, Jay Cooke, in 1864. Cooke built a large stone mansion at the eastern tip of the island and spent summer months there. In 1925 the island was purchased by Ohio

State University which established the Franz Theodore Stone Laboratory for marine research on Lake Erie.

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LAKESIDE In 1869 the Methodist Church Conference bought the wooded shore of Lake Erie and called it *Lakeside*. Soon after Rev. R. P. Duval of nearby Port Clinton began holding summer religious camp meetings in the new community. By 1873, with the adoption of the Chautauqua idea (modeled after Methodist Chautauqua Institution in New York) *Lakeside* began to develop into a vacation and recreational resort as well as a religious center. The year-round population of about 400 is swelled to over 4,000 in the summer months.

MARBLEHEAD There are two stories as to how *Marblehead* received its name. One holds that a pioneer mistook the white limestone of the area for marble and called the community Marble Headland. The other says that Massachusetts settlers noted the cape's resemblance to Marblehead, Massachusetts, and so named it. Yankees came in 1809, but the town began its real growth in 1834 when John Clemens opened the limestone quarry. Most residents are now employed by the Kelley Island Lime and Transport Company.

SOUTH BASS ISLAND The Bass Islands received their name because large numbers of Lake bass are found in the waters off their shores. *South Bass Island* lies seven miles north of Catawba Island and is the largest and most southerly. Pierpont Edwards bought the island and sent workers to clear the land in 1811. The War of 1812 intervened and delayed settlement for many years. Just off Middle Bass Island occurred the Battle of Lake Erie, September 11, 1813, when Commodore Oliver H. Perry defeated a large British squadron and sent his famous message: "We have met the enemy and they are ours—two ships, two brigs, one schooner and one sloop." This victory is commemorated on *South Bass Island* by the 352-foot granite shaft of the Perry Memorial, now a National Monument, erected in 1913. *South Bass Island* has been a popular vacation resort for many years and annually attracts several thousand summer vacationers.

MIDDLE BASS ISLAND See South Bass Island for name origin. Also acquired by Pierpont Edwards, the island was not permanently occupied until the middle of the 19th century when Jose de Rivera brought in German Rhinelanders and started grape vineyards. The island is still famous for its grapes and wine-making.

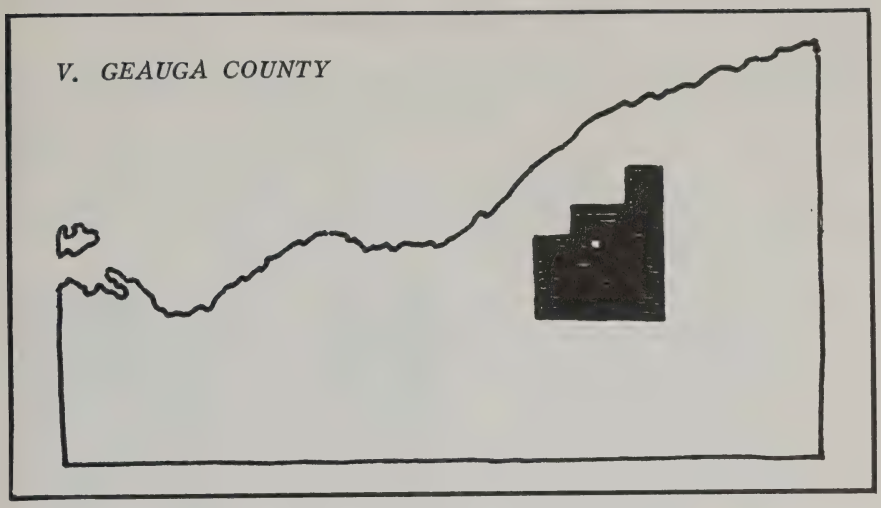
MOUSE ISLAND A stone's throw off Catawba Island point, this island was purchased in 1873 by Governor Rutherford B. Hayes of Ohio, who said that "it was as small as a mouse."

NORTH BASS ISLAND — See South Bass Island for name origin. This 740-acre apot in Lake Erie was first called Isle St. George for a squatter known simply as George. It was occupied in 1853 by brothers Peter and Simon Fox who came from Canada and developed the grape-growing and wine-making industries on the island. These occupations flourished until Prohibition in 1919 and then declined. Since 1933 they have made a comeback.

PUT-IN-BAY — The Village of *Put-In-Bay*, a boating, fishing summer resort on South Bass Island, is named for the Harbor which is shaped like a pudding bag.

RATTLE-SNAKE ISLAND — There are two versions for this island's name origin. One holds that there were rattlesnakes on the island when settlers first came; the other is that the two islets at the south end resemble the rattles of the snake.

STARVE ISLAND — Legend has it that a human skeleton was found on *Starve Island* by the first visitors. Since it was presumed that a previous occupant had starved to death, the name seemed fitting.



AQUILLA The village of *Aquilla* was incorporated in the late 1940's. The lake on which it is located was named Aquilla years before by Judge Lester Taylor who said its shape resembled an eagle—in Latin, "aquilla".

AUBURN Abner Colvin, the son-in-law of Bildad Bradley, *Auburn's* first settler of 1814, named the settlement for his own home town of Auburn, New York.

BAINBRIDGE Organized in 1817, *Bainbridge* was named in honor of Commodore William Bainbridge, who commanded the U.S.S. *Constitution* during the War of 1812. Prior to its organization David Austin bought a sizeable tract of its land and the area was known for a time as Austintown. Purchasers from the Connecticut Land Company in 1798 were Samuel Lord, Judson Canfield, Elijah Wadsworth, and David Waterman. Pioneers included David McConoughy, a Scotch-Irish immigrant who came from Boston in 1810, Jasper Lacey and Gamaliel H. Kent.

BURTON Titus Street, a large land owner, who was given the privilege of naming *Burton* township when it was organized in 1806, promptly named it for his son, Burton Street. By a curious coincidence the word "Burton" in Old England was derived from "burgh" meaning a fortified place and "ton" meaning a village. *Burton*, therefore, would mean a village near a fortified place, which might have its modern counterpart considering the massive buildings of nearby Cleveland.

Burton's survey party, composed of Turhand Kirtland, Joel Yale, William Law, and Thomas Sheldon, blazed a road from Painesville to *Burton* in 1798. The Connecticut Land Company then conveyed the *Burton* land to John Caldwell, John Morgan, Jonathan Brace, Turhand Kirtland, Titus Street, Seth Hart, William Law, and Daniel Holbrook.

Thomas Umberville was the first homemaker in 1798, followed by Amarish Beard and a family named Honey.

CHARDON Peter Chardon Brooks, wealthy Bostonian, bought much of the land in the *Chardon* area. He then offered to give a tract of it to Geauga County Commissioners if they would locate the county seat on his land and give it his middle name, *Chardon*, which means "thistle" in French. By 1812 Captain Paine, with the help of Custis Wilmot, had cleared some of the dense forest to make room for the county seat, and Norman Canfield arrived from Litchfield, New York. Paine later moved from Painesville to become *Chardon's* first postmaster. The township was organized in 1816.

CHESTER The township of *Chester* was once called Wooster, but the name was changed to avoid confusion with the county seat of Wayne County. The name may have been taken from any one of the Chesters in Connecticut, Massachusetts, or New York. In Old England Chester was the modernization of the Saxon form of the Latin "Castra", which the Romans applied to their fortified towns. *Chester* began as an equalizing township, meaning one set aside by the Connecticut Land Company to reimburse owners who had drawn swampy or otherwise unusable tracts. It was surveyed into lots by Thaddeus Lacey in 1801, and the same year Justin Miner arrived. Within two years Harvey Sheffield, a Mr. Allen, Dr. Miner, and Amariah Beard had joined them.

CHESTERLAND Name origin is the same as Chester's.

CLARIDON Organized as Burlington in 1817, this township changed its name to avoid confusion with the other Burlington in Ohio, when a post office was established in 1819. How *Claridon* happened to be chosen is not recorded. Early owners included the Lake Erie Land Company, Uriel Holmes and P. H. Buel. By 1810 settlement was made by Uriel Holmes, Asa Cowles, Elijah Douglas, and Seth Spencer.

FOWLER'S MILL In the 1820's three Fowler brothers—Milo, Hiram, and Edwin—constructed a grist mill, saw mill and a

mill house (which is still standing) on the Chagrin River. Although the final "s" of "Mills" was dropped by the post office, this place is still known locally as Fowler's Mills.

FULLERTOWN Located in northeastern Newbury township, *Fullertown* received its name from Thomas Fuller who began operating a flour mill on the Chagrin River in 1822.

HAMBDEN Most of *Hambden* was owned and occupied by Dr. Solomon Bond, who bought the township from Oliver Phelps, and, untroubled by modesty, christened the area Bondstown in 1801. When the township separated in 1817 from Painesville, it continued as Bondstown until 1820 when Hamden was adopted from Hamden, Connecticut. The "b" was added to distinguish it from Hamden in southern Ohio. Hampton, from which Hamden is derived, is an Old English term meaning a village proper as distinguished from the scattered hamlets around it.

In addition to Bond's relatives, Joseph, Sr. and Jr. and Stephen Bond, pioneer settlers included William and Thomas Evans, James Rawlins, and Shadrock Ruark.

HUNTSBURG Dr. Eben Hunt, proprietor, and his son, Lewis Hunt, were the men remembered when *Huntsburg* township was organized in 1821. The first permanent resident was Stephen Pomeroy, who, with knapsack strapped to his back, came from Northampton, Massachusetts, in 1807. Lewis Hunt followed shortly after. A squatter, John Finley, had lived in the area as early as 1802.

MIDDLEFIELD Originally called Batavia, *Middlefield* township was organized in 1802 and was so named because of its location midway between Painesville and Warren. *Middlefield* was one of the first towns in Geauga County to attract settlers. Isaac Thompson bought 300 acres as early as 1799, establishing Thompson's Corners where he kept a tavern. Joseph Johnson, Bazil Cahoe, and James Hesttman migrated in 1800. Amish from Pennsylvania later joined with the Yankees and York state men in building this township.

MITCHELL'S MILL Martin Mitchell established a mill on the east branch of the Chagrin River in 1836. Ever since, the surrounding lovely countryside (there is no village) has been called *Mitchell's Mill.*

MONTVILLE One chronicler says that *Montville* was so named because "it is supposed by some to be the most elevated of any township in the country". It is more likely that the name was brought from Connecticut where there is a place of the same name on the Thames river in New London County. Pioneers Roswell Stevens,

Orizon Cleveland, Jehial Wilcox and Hazard Andrews arrived in 1815, but it was not until 1822 that the township was organized.

MUNSON — The name first chosen for *Munson* township was MacDonough in honor of Commodore Thomas MacDonough who commanded the American fleet in the Lake Champlain victory over the British in the War of 1812. In 1812, in spite of protests among the township folk, the County Commissioners granted a petition submitted by Elijah Hovey to have the township's name changed to *Monson* after his home town in Massachusetts. In transcription, the name was changed to Munson. Crary, Hotchkiss, and Beane bought a large part of *Munson* from Titus Street in 1814. In 1816 they were joined by Samuel Hopson, Lemuel Rider, and Cyrus Davis.

NEWBURY — Many of *Newbury's* first settlers came from Glastonbury, Connecticut. When the township was organized in 1817, the name "New-bury" (omitting the "Glaston") was proposed and adopted. Lemuel Punderson, who entered the Reserve in 1803 as a land agent, moved to *Newbury* in 1809 and built a mill. Other townsmen were Uri Hickox who set up a whiskey distillery, Samuel Barker and Bildad Bradley.

NOVELTY — Home of the dairy barns of the Belle Vernon Dairy of Cleveland is *Novelty*. Its name is literally a novelty, being unique and of unknown origin.

PARKMAN — The township of *Parkman* took its name from one of its proprietors, Samuel Parkman, and his nephew, Robert Breck Parkman, who supervised the survey and land sales in the area. Joseph Williams, a co-proprietor along with Samuel Parkman, Moses Warren, a surveyor, and settlers Samuel Ledyard, Joseph Young and William Bateman from up-state New York played important roles in *Parkman's* development.

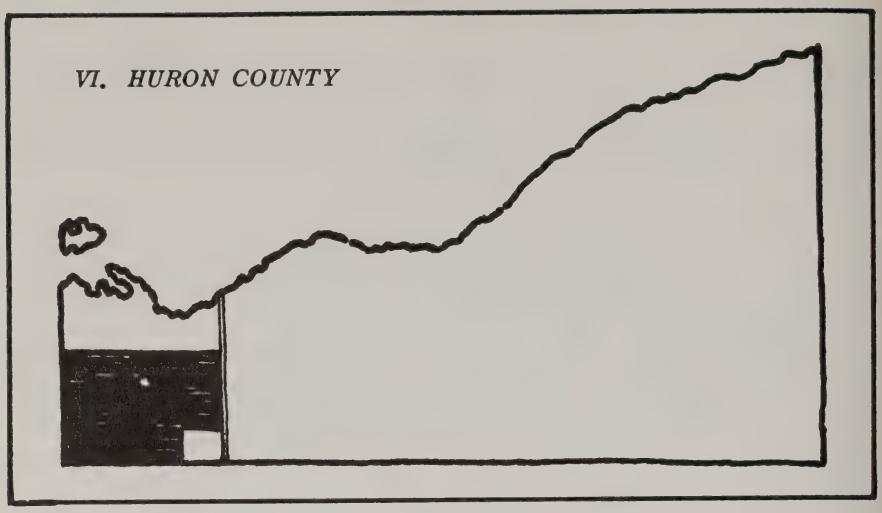
RUSSELL — When *Russell* township was organized in 1827 the voters decided on the name of the original settlers. Gideon Russell, his wife and five children, hewed a home out of the wilderness in this township in 1818 and for three years were the only residents until joined by Orson Norton in 1821. Purchasers from the Connecticut Land Company were Samuel Huntington, Aristarchus Henry Champion, Thomas and Frederick Kinsman, and Nathaniel Mathews. *Russell* was at first referred to as West Woods by the residents of nearby Newbury.

SOUTH RUSSELL VILLAGE — The name origin is, of course, the same as Russell's.

THOMPSON At the organization of *Thompson* township in 1817, voters chose the name of the chief early landowner, Matthew Thompson who came here in 1800. Other names important to *Thompson* were Connecticut Yankees Dr. Isaac Palmer and Skene Sackett.

TROY When surveyor Jacob Welsh, who had been commissioned by proprietor David Hinckley to survey this area, promised to give 50 acres for a church, parsonage and cemetery, settlers voted to adopt the name of *Welshfield* in 1820. But when Welsh failed to fulfill his promise, John Nash in 1834 obtained a petition to change the name to *Troy*. Why that name was selected was never explained, although it was likely taken from Troy, New York. Other early *Troy* residents were Seth Porter, Asa White and Peter Beales.

WELSHFIELD At the center of Troy township Jacob Welsh's name finally "took" for the community of *Welshfield*. When application for a Troy township post office was made, local residents discovered that a Troy post office already existed in Ohio. Thereupon, resentment against Jacob Welsh (see Troy) having died down, citizens named the post office and the community, *Welshfield*.



BELLEVUE In the 1830's James H. Bell, a civil engineer, surveyed the route of the Mad River and Lake Erie railroad through *Bellevue* on the way from Sandusky to Mansfield. Because of the boost the railroad gave to the town, Bell's name was adopted, and the residents agreed it was also descriptive of the "beautiful view" to be had in the surrounding country.

Located half in Huron County and half in Sandusky County, with the county line running through town on West Street, this community marks the western edge of the Fire Lands (reserved for those Connecticut people who had suffered loss at the hands of British raiders during the American Revolutionary War) as well as the western edge of Connecticut's Reserve.

The first settlers, Mark Hopkins and Elnathan George, came in 1815 from Genessee County, New York. At first the place was called York Cross Roads, and then Amsden's Corners in honor of Thomas G. Amsden, who opened the first store in 1819. The community was incorporated in 1851.

BISMARK Originally called Paris, this community changed its name to *Bismark*, without the "c", for the German Chancellor at the time of the Franco-Prussian war of 1870-71.

BOUGHTONVILLE The Boughtons, a family of early settlers, gave their name to *Boughtonville*, located on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad in northwestern Ripley township.

BRONSON The township of *Bronson*, organized in 1817, was named for the principal proprietor, Isaac Bronson. The "Sufferers" who had received the land of this township in compensation for their losses during the American Revolution, sold it to three proprietors, Bronson, Gideon Granger, and Thomas R. Gold. A

squatter, John Welch, built a cabin in *Bronson* in 1815, but soon departed. The year 1816 saw the arrival of Benjamin Newcomb, Martin Kellogg, Aaron Fay, and Reuben Pixley.

CELERYVILLE — Luxuriant crops of celery raised in this vicinity prompted the name for *Celeryville*, located in southwestern New Haven township. The community was settled mainly by Holland Dutch people who drained the rich muck land of the New Haven marsh and put it into crops.

CENTERTON — *Centerton* no doubt received its name from its geographic location near Norwich township's center.

CLARKSFIELD — With the opening of a post office in 1820, *Clarksfield* was organized and named for James Clark, a Connecticut "sufferer", who had lost property valued at £1,048 in the British raids of the Revolution and was reimbursed by a grant in *Clarksfield* township. Most of the original "sufferers" who received grants in *Clarksfield* township sold their rights to Timothy Chittenden, Jr., Ezra Dibble, Comfort Hoyt, Jr., William Walton, Philo Calhoun, Daniel Minor, and Joseph Trowbridge. Settlers Samuel Husted, Ezra Wood, Simeon Hoyt, Benjamin Stiles and Solomon Gray came out from Danbury, Connecticut, in 1817 and 1818.

COLLINS — Located just north of the center of Townsend township, *Collins* may well have taken its name from Collinsville in old Connecticut, from an early settler whose claim to fame has been lost in the mists of time, or from an official of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad built through *Collins* in the mid-nineteenth century.

DELPHI — Ripley township's *Delphi* is very likely a carryover from Delphi in upstate New York, where the use of classical names like Troy, Homer, Ilion, and Syracuse was common in the nineteenth century.

FAIRFIELD — Fairfield, Connecticut, was transplanted by Connecticut pioneers in the christening of *Fairfield*, Ohio. The first clearing was made in 1816 by Widow Martha Sample and her nine children. Also arriving in 1816 was Jacob Rush who later married the Widow Sample. Other early-comers were Eliphalet Day, Amos Harkness, Spencer Baker, and Phillip Moffitt. Proprietors were David Allen, George Allen, Ephraim Penfield, and Joseph Smedley.

FITCHVILLE — A principal proprietor, Jabez Fitch, supplied the name for *Fitchville*, organized as a township in 1828. Other proprietors were William Knapp and Benjamin Brush. First settlers were Peter and Abraham Mead, Amos Reynolds, and brothers Rundel, Alvah, Seeley, Linus, and Samuel Palmer.

GREENFIELD At the first township meeting in 1816, *Greenfield* was chosen because of the attractive, colorful scenery in the area. Later the name was changed to Berlin but in 1822 it reverted to *Greenfield* and has remained so ever since. Proprietors were Thomas and Samuel Rowland, Walter and Zalmon Bradley and James Knapp. Settlers included William McKelvey, Hanson Read, Abram Powers, James Wilson, Samuel Spencer, and Cyrus Marsh, from up-state New York and Connecticut.

GREENWICH The township of *Greenwich*, organized in 1828, took its name from Greenwich, Connecticut, home town of the Mead family, early pioneers. The Mead brothers, Andrew, Titus, Peter, Jeremiah, Jr., Calvin, Johiel, Noah, Jonas, Richard, Jared, Jabez, Silas, Zenos, and Abner held on to their father's land, while other grantees sold to David Husted, Uriah Field, and Thomas Clapp. In 1817 Henry Carpenter, an up-state New Yorker, broke the quiet of the wilderness with his axe, and the next year Varney Pearce, Esbon Husted, Cyrus Mead, Ephraim Barker, D. W. Briggs and a number of Quakers came.

HANVILLE CORNERS Located in north Fairfield township, *Hanville Corners* was named for the Hanville family who established and operated a saw mill in this area. The mill is still in operation.

HARTLAND When *Hartland* township was organized in 1826, the citizens chose the name of Hartland, Connecticut, hometown of many pioneers. Early grantees included Jonathan and Robert Douglass, Charles Bulkley, Jeremiah Miller, and Joshua, Jared, and Jonathan Starr. First settlers to arrive in 1817 were William and Alba Munsell. The original name of *Hartland* was Canterbury, for Canterbury, Connecticut.

HAVANA Settlement originated with the building of the Sandusky and Mansfield Railroad through here in 1848. Horatio N. Owen built a warehouse and store close to the railroad and called the place *Havana*, perhaps because of the growing American interest in Cuba at the time.

HUNTS CORNERS *Hunts Corners* was named for Hiel Hunt, who settled first in 1816 in Venice and then moved to *Hunts Corners* where he lived to be 100 years old.

LYME In 1811 Major Joseph Strong settled in *Lyme* or what was then called Wheatsborough (in honor of a Mr. Wheat, an early squatter). So taken was he with the territory, in 1812 he journeyed to Connecticut and bought 800 acres from an Old Lyme, (Connecticut) proprietor, Richard McCurdy. Five of Strong's brothers

promptly followed him in the next few years. Then, in 1819, with the organization of the township, Major Strong sponsored the christening of *Lyme*, the name of the home town of Richard McCurdy, from whom Strong had bought his land. Other proprietors were Abishai Woodward, Winthrop Saltonstall, Moses Warren, and Ricket Larimer. Permanent settlers Michael Widener, John Stull, Asa Sherwood, George Ferguson, and Charles Rush arrived between 1809 and 1811.

MONROEVILLE *Monroeville* owes its origin as a village to Seth Brown and John Sowers, early settlers, who laid out the village in 1817. Brown, who had served with General William Henry Harrison's army during the War of 1812, had gone as far as Monroe, Michigan. There he had married an attractive young widow, Mrs. Sarah Tuttle. Moving to the Western Reserve of Ohio after the war, Brown built a house for his bride and named the neighborhood Monroe in honor of his bride's former home. When the post office was set up, the "ville" was added to distinguish it from another Monroe in Ohio.

NEW HAVEN The township of *New Haven*, one-time home of the fabled "Johnny Appleseed", was organized in 1815 under the name of the Connecticut town from which many pioneers came. In 1838 it became an incorporated village. Caleb Palmer, who later was the first postmaster, made the first settlement in 1811. He was joined soon after by Jonathan Chapman or "Johnny Appleseed", who came from Massachusetts to Ohio in 1801. Johnny went over to the cider mills in western Pennsylvania where he picked up apple seeds, brought them back and set out an orchard in what became *New Haven* township. When the trees were large enough to transplant, he traded them for food, sold them or gave them away. He left Ohio in 1838. Other settlers who arrived from Connecticut in 1814-15, were Josiah Curtiss, Reuben Skinner, James McIntyre, David Powers, Samuel Carpenter, and Martin Kellogg. Proprietors included Elisha and Isaac Mills, John N. Wadsworth, William J. Vredenburg, James Bradley, Joseph Darling and Ebenezer Peck.

NEW LONDON This community's name stems from New London, Connecticut, home of Nathaniel Richards and Nathaniel Ledyard, the two largest proprietors, and Nathan Douglass, a principal "sufferer" (one who lost property during British raids). The first resident in 1815 was Abner Green, whose daughter, Margaret Green, was involved in the first two legal cases in Huron County. She was plaintiff in a breach of promise suit dismissed when the defendant, Henry Bates, settled out of court by giving her a horse. The following year she was defendant in a criminal case for infanticide and was acquitted after trial in the old log court house at Milan. Settlers s ere Hosea Townshend, Isaac P. Case, Simeon Munson, Philo and Aurora Porter, Sherman, Austin and Major Smith, John Corry, Joseph

Merrifield, and Peter Kinsley. Other proprietors were Samuel Mather, Jr., Ester Cleveland, and Sylvester Mather.

NORWALK The community of *Norwalk*, Ohio, derived its name from Norwalk on Long Island Sound in Connecticut, but there is a disagreement as to how *that* town got its name. One version has it that the first settlers paid the Indians wampum, six coats, ten hatchets, hoes, jew's harps, mirrors, and scissors for a tract of land to run "from the Norwalk River to Five Mile River, from the sea one day's *north walk* into the country". Hence the name "Norwalk". This story fails to explain, however, where the Norwalk River, used in setting the original boundaries, got its name in the first place. At any rate, *Norwalk*, Ohio, became the principal center of the Firelands (land given to owners who lost property during British raids) and retains today much of the New England atmosphere. The fascinating Firelands Museum and Historical Society are located in *Norwalk*. In 1816 Elisha Whittlesey, founder of Canfield, moved to *Norwalk* and helped Platt Benedict and Frederick Fallig establish the community. Whittlesey later served in Congress and in 1826 established Norwalk Academy, famous throughout Ohio and forerunner of Ohio Wesleyan and Baldwin-Wallace College.

NORWICH The Connecticut town of the same name is undoubtedly the ancestor of *Norwich* township organized in 1827. The word "wich" in Old England meant a "dairy farm"; thus Norwich meant the "north dairy farm". The original grantees sold their land to Daniel Coit and John Kinsman. Coit sold his share to James Williams, Phillip Hopkins, and David Hinman. These three men ran the survey lines of *Norwich* in 1816 for 100-acre lots. In the same year came the land-buyers, John Williamson, Chaucey Woodriff, and Wilder Lawrence. Other pioneers included John Fletcher, Daniel Farman, and Loab Lindsey.

OLENA For several years *Olena* was called Angell's Corners for Daniel Angell who opened a tavern in the region in 1840. Why the name was changed and where the new name came from is unknown—unless it is possibly a corruption of Olean, New York. *Olena* was settled in 1822 by William and Samuel Burras.

PERU When *Peru* township was organized in 1822, the name was chosen probably for *Peru*, Massachusetts. was the last of a series of names for the region. Most of the original grantees sold their interests to Jeremiah Atwater and William J. Vredenburg and in the beginning the community took the name of the latter. The first pioneers arrived in 1815—Henry Adams from Marlboro, Vermont, and Elihu Clary and William Smith from Deerfield, Massachusetts. When Daniel Mack arrived in 1816, the place was called Macksville for a time. And in 1822 a Lima Academy was established by Rev. Harry O. Sheldon in anticipation of naming the place Lima.

PLYMOUTH Upon village incorporation in 1834, the settlers voted for the name *Plymouth* in memory of the first New England settlement—despite the fact that some men objected that this was "a damned Yankee" and "a cursed Puritan" name. The original English meaning of "plym" was plum, and Plymouth was the town in England located at the mouth of the Plym River. The village was laid out during one of the visits of the Marquis de Lafayette to America in 1825 and for a time the name of Paris was thought appropriate. Early residents were William Crall, Sylvester Kellogg, Matthew McKelvey, Abram Trux, and a man named Lindsey who opened the first tavern.

PONTIAC *Pontiac* was named for the famous Ottawa chieftain who operated through the Ohio country during the French and Indian War, and immediately thereafter led the notorious "conspiracy" against the British colonists on the frontier.

RICHMOND Upon organization as an independent township, *Richmond* was named in honor of Richmond township in Massachusetts. The area was once called Cannon for John and Samuel Cannon, two of the principal "suffer-grantees" (those who suffered destruction of property in British raids during the Revolution). Other proprietors were Andrew and Thomas Fitch, John Belden, and William St. John. The first land was sold by Isaac Mills in 1825 to William Tindall, who cleared a field and planted 50 apple trees from Johnny Appleseed's nursery.

RIDGEFIELD The name of *Ridgefield* was perhaps chosen for the ridge of land that runs through the township, or perhaps for Ridgefield township in Fairfield County, Connecticut. An early chronicle reveals that the Wyandot Indians who roamed this area were normally quiet and peaceful, but under the influence of strong drink were "ugly and quarrelsome" and "behaved just like white folks". The first white settler, William Frink, built a log house in 1811, and was followed by Seth Brown, who had fought in Michigan during the War of 1812. In 1816 the township was organized and an election held. Proprietors were Philip B. Bradley, Jared Olmsted, Elisha Whittlesey, Job and Daniel Smith, and Timothy Taylor.

RIPLEY — The township of *Ripley* was organized in 1827 and named for Rev. Hezekiah Ripley of Connecticut, a "sufferer" who, after suffering £368 damage to his New England property during British raids, came to the Western Reserve and located his farm in this township. Proprietors were Lewis B. Sturges, Jonathan Sturges, Isaac Bronson, and Samuel Wakeman. First-comers between 1820 and 1826 included Seth Foster, Moses Inscho, James Dickson, Abraham Stotts, Simeon Howard, Samuel Case and Aaron Service.

SHERMAN — Taylor Sherman, one of the board of directors of the Firelands Company (organized by those New Englanders whose property had been damaged by British raids in Connecticut during the Revolution), at a directors' meeting in New Haven, Connecticut, November 9, 1908, gave his name to the township. Among the early settlers was Taylor Sherman's son Daniel, who was the uncle of the famous John, later Senator from Ohio, and William, later general in the Union army who led the "March through Georgia". Other pioneers included Burwell Fitch, Samuel Seymour, Rufus Paine, Edwin Hanford, and Adam Swan. Proprietors were Taylor Sherman, Phineas Miller, Stephen Lockwood, and Samuel Middlebrook. The township was organized in 1817.

STANDARD–BURG — The name-origin of this community in Ridgefield township is unknown.

STEUBEN — *Steuben* was settled by Germans and named for Baron von Steuben, the Prussian general who aided Washington's army during the American Revolution.

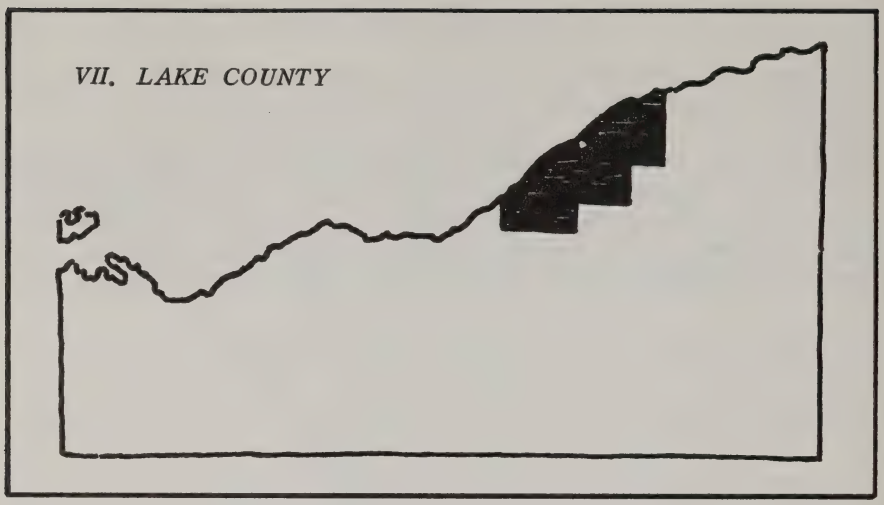
STRONG'S RIDGE — Major Joseph Strong, one of the largest owners of land in Lyme township, and his brothers—Zadoc and Abner, settled along "the Ridge" in 1811 and 1816 and left their name on the land.

TOWNSEND — William Townsend bestowed his name on this township. One of the original proprietors, he built a block house in 1820 at the time that *Townsend* was organized and two years later opened a store which he furnished with goods from his store at Sandusky.

WAKEMAN — The township of *Wakeman* was organized in 1824, taking the name of one of the proprietors, Jesup Wakeman. Ebenezer Jessup, Isaac Bronson, Burton Canfield, Bennett French, and Joel Crane were also one-time proprietors. Homemakers Augustin Canfield, Amial Peirce, Burton Canfield, and Samuel Bristol arrived in 1817 from New Haven, Litchfield and Fairfield Counties, Connecticut.

WEAVER CORNERS — *Weavers Corners* took the name of one of its early settlers.

WILLARD — Founded in 1875 at the junction of the Chicago division of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad with the Sandusky, Mansfield and Newark Railroads, this community at first known as Chicago Junction. About 1920 the name was changed to *Willard* to honor Daniel Willard, then president of the Baltimore and Ohio.



CHAGRIN This township is what remains of old Willoughby township after the incorporation of various villages in the northern half of Willoughby township. For details on settlement and name, see Willoughby.

CONCORD Although originally called Wilson's Corners, when this township was organized in 1822 the name *Concord* was adopted in tribute to the American Revolutionary battle site from which some of the early Ohio families migrated. In 1802 the first settler of *Concord*, William Jordan, from Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, made the first clearing in the forest. It was almost ten years before he was joined by William Rollin and Spencer Phelps (cousin of Oliver Phelps, largest stockholder in the Connecticut Land Company). A later contingent from Massachusetts, including Hosea Brown and Jacob Morse, arrived between 1817 and 1820.

EASTLAKE The surburban community of *Eastlake* derives its name from its location on Lake Erie east of Cleveland. Located at the mouth of the Chagrin River, this suburb of 20th century origin was recognized as a political subdivision by Lake County commissioners in 1951.

FAIRPORT Sometimes redundantly referred to as "Fairport Harbor", the village of *Fairport* received its name because of its position on Lake Erie. Abraham Skinner, one of the proprietors, laid out the village in 1812 and called it Grandon because of its location on the Grand River. After a brief flurry of prosperity occasioned by the opening of New York's Erie Canal, the town was incorporated in 1836. It slipped back into obscurity, however, until revived by the rising iron and steel industry in the late nineteenth century. A moving force in the establishment of *Fairport* was Samuel

Huntington, an early governor of Ohio and nephew of the Samuel Huntington who signed the Declaration of Independence. The Connecticut Land Company had deeded the property to Samuel Fowler who passed it on to Huntington, Seymour and Calvin Austin, Simon Perkins, and Abraham Skinner.

GRAND RIVER The village of *Grand River* takes its identification from the river it borders. The river itself was once called Geauga. Geauga is the English rendition of an Indian word. Some maintain that in Indian language it meant "grand" or "great", being an English corruption of the Indian "chocago", "chogage" or "cherage". Other authorities hold that it derives from the Indian words "sheauga shipe" meaning "racoon river". This seems the most likely explanation, although another school of thought argues that the word is the same as "cuyahoga" meaning "crooked".

KIRTLAND Turhand Kirtland, stockholder and general land agent for the Connecticut Land Company in the Western Reserve, received many lots in the northern part of *Kirtland*, and it was for him that the township was named. *Kirtland* achieved spectacular notice in 1831 when Mormon prophet Joseph Smith drove into the town one day in January, rushed into the store of Gilbert and Whitney and pointing a finger at Whitney, cried, "Newel K. Whitney, thou art the man! You prayed me here, now what do you want of me?" Prophet Smith stayed on, organized a Mormon community in *Kirtland* and built the imposing Temple before financial troubles forced him to move westward.

Kirtland was an "equalizing" township—one used to redress losses of those who received swampy or other poor land in the Reserve. It was not until 1811 that Christopher Crary made the first permanent clearing and he was followed shortly thereafter by Isaac Morley. The township was organized in 1818.

KIRTLAND HILLS VILLAGE See Kirtland.

LAKELINE A twentiety-century development, *Lakeline* takes its name from its location along the shore line of Lake Erie. It was approved as a political subdivision by Lake County commissioners in 1951.

LEROY The name was drawn from LeRoy in Genesee County, New York, home of many pioneers. Township organization occurred in 1820. In the Connecticut Land Company's drawing in 1798 the *LeRoy* area went to Benjamin Bates, Moses Kingsley, Amasa Clapp, James and Samuel Hamilton and others. Four years later Colonel Clapp sent his sons Paul and Elah with Jonathan B. Russell to open up the township by building cabins and clearing fields. By 1805 Spencer Phelps, John and David French, had followed.

MADISON The township of *Madison* was organized in 1811 and named for the incumbent President of the United States, James Madison. Madison Village in the center of the township was incorporated in 1868, after having been known as Chapintown and Centreville. Pioneering in 1802 was John A. Harper, younger brother of Alexander and Joseph Harper—founders of Harpersfield in Ashtabula County. These brothers were from Connecticut originally, but had lived for a time at Harpersfield in up-state New York, before coming to the Reserve in 1798. Within three years Harper was joined by James Thompson, Phineas Mixer, Ira Blanchard and Abraham Tappan.

MENTOR Organized as a township in 1815, *Mentor* took the name of Hiram Mentor, an early resident. Mentor Village was incorporated in 1855. By 1800 Jared Ward, Moses Parks, Ebenezer and Hosmer Merry had established themselves as *Mentor* residents.

PAINESVILLE What eventually became *Painesville* was at first known as the Oak Openings and then as Champion in honor of Henry Champion, proprietor and large stockholder in the Connecticut Land Company. In 1816 it was changed to *Painesville* as a

tribute to General Edward Paine, early proprietor of the region, in whose memory a monument was later erected in Charter Oak Park.

Captain Edward Paine, Jr., General Paine's son, visited the Western Reserve in the fall of 1796 to trade with the Indians. Returning to Connecticut, he persuaded his father to settle on a 1,000-acre tract he purchased along the Grand River. He was preceded, however, in 1798 by John Walworth who brought a group of settlers and eleven members of his own family from up-state New York to the region.

In General Paine's party were 66 persons, including his son Edward, a nephew Eleazer, and Captain Abraham Skinner. In 1803 the latter two set up the community of New Market, a short distance above the present *Painesville* on the Grand River. Walworth soon exchanged his land in New Market for Cleveland property. The community failed to develop as expected and its population was absorbed by neighboring *Painesville.*

PERRY The township of *Perry* was organized in 1815 and commemorated in its name is the famous naval victory at Put-in-Bay of Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry. Trail-blazers were Ezra Beebe, Lemuel Ellis, Elijah Hanke, David Allen and Thomas Wright who arrived about 1810.

TIMBERLAKE The name for *Timberlake* is, of course, purely descriptive. A twentieth-century development, this suburban community was recognized by the Lake County commissioners as a political subdivision in 1951.

UNIONVILLE Located at the eastern edge of Madison township on the county line, *Unionville's* name symbolizes the junction of Ashtabula and Lake Counties.

WAITE HILL The Waites, an old and distinguished family of the Western Reserve, who came to Brecksville as early as 1812, are honored in the naming of *Waite Hill.* Dr. Frederick C. Waite, well-known physician and former member of the Medical School of Western Reserve University, Dr. Harry F. Waite, who developed the shock-proof, oil-immersed X-ray tube and transformer for the protection of medical patients and operators, and Floyd E. Waite, director of public property in Cleveland in the early 1920's, are only a few of the family's illustrious members.

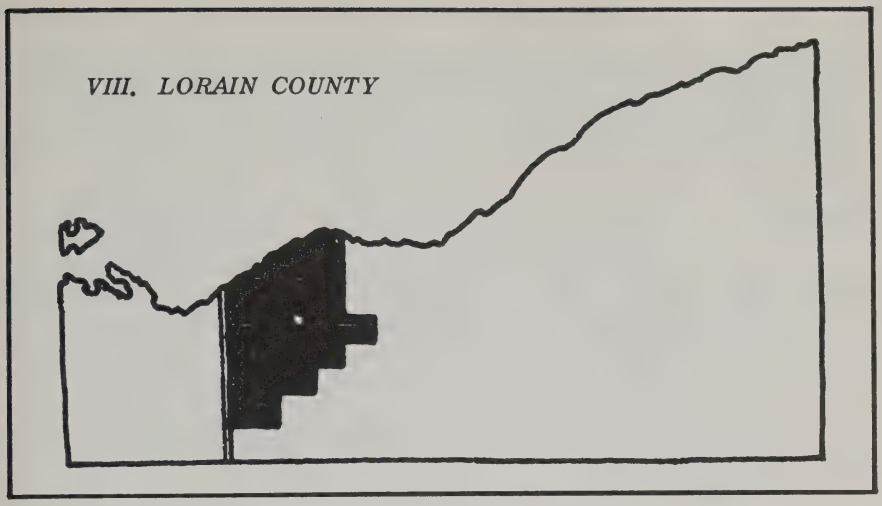
WICKLIFFE When a railroad was built through *Wickliffe* and a post-office established in the 1840's the name of Charles Wickliffe, postmaster-general in President John Tyler's cabinet was attached to the community. It was settled originally by the Tarbell and Jones families from Haddam, Connecticut.

WILLOUGHBY At the time of incorporation in 1834 and at the request of several of the local doctors, *Willoughby* township was named for Professor Westel Willoughby of the medical school at Fairfield in Herkimer County, New York. The Willoughby doctors, who had established the Willoughby Medical School—first such school in northern Ohio, had studied with the professor and hoped that he would come to serve as president of the new institution or at least make a financial contribution. This honor he declined and there is no record that he gave anything more substantial than his portrait.

David Abbott made the first settlement in 1798 and two years later was chosen sheriff of Trumbull County, which at the time comprised the entire Western Reserve. He was followed within a decade by Holly Tanner, Lewis Miller, Silas Parker, and Joseph Waldo.

Willoughby, originally known as Charlton, was organized in 1815 under the name of Chagrin for the river which flowed through it. By an interesting quirk of fate, what was left of Willoughby township after the incorporation of Eastlake, Timberlake, Lakeline, Waite Hill, Willowick, Wickliffe, and Willoughby, resumed the name of Chagrin township in 1951. The medical school that caused the dropping of the name Chagrin went out of existence in 1847. Trouble over charges of grave-robbing brought on the demise. Faculty members left—some going to Cleveland where they founded the forerunner of Western Reserve University Medical School, and others to Columbus where they established Starling Medical College, an ancestor of Ohio State's Medical School.

WILLOWICK Given official standing as a political unit by the Lake County commissioners in 1951, *Willowick* derived its name from a combination of the names, Willoughby and Wickliffe.



AMHERST The name *Amherst* comes from Amherst, New Hampshire, which like its namesake in Massachusetts, derived its name from the dashing British general of French and Indian War fame—Lord Jeffrey Amherst.

Pioneers in this region came from the Berkshires of western Massachusetts, with Jacob Sharpe apparently the first in 1811. After the War of 1812 he was joined by Stephen Cable, Reuben Webb, Thomas Waite and Ezekiel Crandall. Josiah Harris arrived in 1817, and in 1830 when the township was organized, he laid out the town lots.

AVON First known locally as Xeuma, and then in 1818 as Troy for Troy, New York, *Avon* township received its final name in 1824 when its citizens petitioned for the change. The name doubtless reproduces the eastern name of Avon, New York and Connecticut, both of which stem from Avon, Massachusetts. In origin the word "avon" comes from the Welsh "afon", meaning river, although outside of French Creek, there is no river of consequence in *Avon* township. Pierpont Edwards of Connecticut, Revolutionary War veteran, Congressman, and judge, received title to *Avon* along with three Bass Islands in Lake Erie, in the Connecticut Land Company drawing of 1807. A squatter, Noah Davis, built a log cabin in the region in 1812 but left shortly after. Settler Wilbur Cahoon arrived in 1814 and was followed by Lewis Austin and Nicholas Young.

BELDEN *Belden* is named for Bildad Beldin, settler of 1816. The spelling was corrupted to Belden.

BLACK RIVER The literal translation for the Indian word "Canesadooharie", which was applied to the stream here, is "Black River". Moravian missionaries attempted to establish an Indian mission at the mouth of this river in 1787, but were forced westward to the Huron river. Twenty years later, New

Englanders Azariah Beebe and Nathan Perry arrived, the latter opening a store and trading post at the mouth of the river. By 1810 they had neighbors—Jacob Shupe, Joseph Quigley, George and Andrew Kelso, and Ralph Lyon. The township was organized in 1817.

BRIGHTON One report has it that Abner Loveland, 1820 settler, selected the name *Brighton* because he considered the place "a bright spot". It may well be, however, that settlers came from Brighton, New York, and brought the name of that town with them. The original form of the name in Old England was Brighthelmstone, said by some to mean "the ships of this town have their helms better ornamented than those of neighboring towns", and said by others to mean, "bright Hempstead". Early *Brighton* inhabitants were Loveland's parents, four sisters, a brother, and Joseph Kingsbury, Avory Hall and Calvin Roice.

BROWNHELM Colonel Henry Brown, proprietor, named the township for himself when it was organized in 1818. He added the "helm" which comes from the English "holm" meaning a low-lying piece of land along a river or inlet. *Brownhelm* borders Lake Erie. Brown, who came in 1816, was soon joined by Charles Whittlesey (who later founded the Western Reserve Historical Society), Peter Pease, William Alverson and William Lincoln.

CAMDEN Remembering his home town in up-state New York, early proprietor Gideon Waugh proposed the name of *Camden.* The name is not inappropriate since the Cam was a river in Old England and "den" meant a glen or dell. The Vermilion river does flow through a glen in *Camden.* Connecticut proprietors, Lemuel and Joshua Storrs and Nehemiah Hubbard sold to Leonard Clark, William Scott, John Johnston, and Gideon Waugh during the 1820's. Township organization occurred in 1835.

CARLISLE There were the usual disagreements over the naming of *Carlisle*. In the first years the community was known as Murrayville for the pioneer Murray brothers. Phineas Johnson, another pioneer, wanted to call it Berlin after his home town in Connecticut. When the township was organized in 1822, however, settlers from Massachusetts won out, naming it *Carlisle* for a town north of Boston. Phineas Johnson, Hezekiah, Samuel and James Brooks, and Riley Smith came in 1819 to clear land along the east branch of the Black River. Other early arrivals were Philo and Jamison Murray, Obed Gibbs, Solomon Dutliff and Chauncey Prindle.

COLUMBIA As the township's first woman settler, Sally Twitchell Bronson Adams, widow of Levi Bronson who helped settle *Columbia*, was given the honor of naming the township when it was organized in 1811. She chose *Columbia* for her home town in

Connecticut. When the post office was established under Thomas G. Bronson on the east bank of Rocky River in 1817, Bronson tried to rename the town, Copokah, the Indian name for Rocky River. The Post Office Department in Washington scrambled the letters in the word, listing it as "Copopa". This version was used for the part of the township east of the river for many years.

The township was purchased in 1807 from the Connecticut Land Company by the Waterbury Land Company. The latter was organized by the Bronson brothers, Calvin Hoadley, Jared Pritchard, and others. In the summer of 1807 thirty-three people left Waterbury, Connecticut, for the new township in the Western Reserve. Shipwrecked at Erie, Pennsylvania, they walked to Cleveland. Most of the party remained in Cleveland for the winter, but Levi Bronson, Jared Pritchard, Silas and Calvin Hoadley and John Williams pushed on making it in eight days to *Columbia.* The next few years saw the coming of Bela and Azor Bronson, Samuel Pardee, Richard Hickox, Thomas Osborne, Jonathan Vaughan, Reuben Lewis, and Noah Terrell.

COLUMBIA HILLS CORNERS — "Copopa" (see Columbia above) was once the name of *Columbia Hills Corners.* Although still called this by the natives, the name was changed through the influence of the late George Williams, who had built a country club and golf course nearby and wanted to advertise them.

EATON — How the name *Eaton* was chosen does not appear in the records, but likely it was imported from up-state New York. In origin, "eaton" means "a watery site", either an island or the bank of a river. In this township, however, there is no river of consequence, even though the east branch of the Black River does touch the township's western edge. Original proprietors included the well-known Caleb Atwater, Turhand Kirtland, and Daniel Holbrook. Until 1822 *Eaton* was called Holbrook. Settlers who began arriving in 1810 were Ira and Asa Morgan, Silas and Ebenezer Wilmot, Levi Mills, Meritt Osborn and Thuret F. Chapman. Organization came in 1822.

ELYRIA — Two different accounts exist for the name-origin of *Elyria.* One has it that the name is a combination of the last name of proprietor Justin Ely with the last three letters of his wife's first name, Maria. The other, more widely credited, holds that the name comes from the Illyrian Provinces along the Adriatic Sea, which were ceded to Napoleon in 1809, the year that Heman Ely, son of Justin, was in Paris on a business trip for his father. The name struck the young Ely's fancy, and he brought it to the forests of northern Ohio.

Justin Ely bought 12,500 acres of land in the vicinity of the falls on the Black River and in 1816 sent his son, Heman, to inspect the land and build a dam, sawmill and grist mill. A year later Artemus Beebe, Ebenezer and Luther Lane came to join Roderick Ashley, Edwin Bush and James Porter who had helped Heman Ely clear the land. In 1818

population had grown so that a tavern was opened by Beebe and a post office was established with Heman Ely as postmaster. In 1819 the

township was organized and became the county seat when Ely offered to supply the newly-created county with buildings for a court house and jail and to put up $2,000 in cash when the county commissioners should decide to erect a new court house. *Elyria* was incorporated as a village in 1833.

FIELDS The Fields family settled in Ridgeville township and built a large house on the north-west corner of the crossroads (now state routes 10 and 57). For years the hamlet was known as Fields Corners, later reduced to *Fields*.

GRAFTON The township of *Grafton* was organized in 1818 under the name of Rawsonville for Grindall Rawson, settler of 1817. With the building of the Big Four railroad the name was changed to *Grafton* probably for Grafton, Massachusetts. Among fifteen men from Berkshire County, Massachusetts, who came in 1816 were Jonathan Rawson, John and George Sibley and Thomas and Seth Ingersoll. They stayed a year and then returned East. But the community was not abandoned. William Ingersoll, Grindall Rawson, Bildad Beldin, David Ashley and others arrived in 1817. *Grafton* became an incorporated village in 1882.

HENRIETTA History does not reveal how the name *Henrietta* came to be chosen—whether it was the name of the wife of an early settler or was imported from an up-state New York town. The original settler, Simeon Durand, who served as an interpreter for LaFayette during the American Revolution, built the first cabin in the wilderness of *Henrietta* in 1817. He was joined by Calvin Leonard, Rudolph Andrews, Joseph Swift and the Holcomb brothers—Almon, Obed and Jedediah. The township was organized in 1827.

HUNTINGTON When *Huntington* was organized in 1822, the name of the first settlers' home town in Connecticut was chosen. Joseph Sage and John Laborie migrated to the township in 1818 and found a cabin built earlier by a squatter, Henry Chase, who had moved on.

KIPTON The naming of *Kipton*, a village in northern Camden township, is a long story. In 1837 the first post office for Camden township was established at *Kipton* under the name of Ponoislise. Six months later it was changed to North Camden. Then, with the coming of the railroad in 1852, the label of Camden Station was hung on the post office door. William Whitney, who had plans for a big railroad center, platted village lots and announced the next name, Binghamton, in honor of his home town in New York. When his scheme collapsed in 1861, the railroad station's name was changed to *Kipton*, for a Mr. Kip of Buffalo who was prominent in the railroad express company that served *Kipton*. The following year, the village agreed to take the station's new name for its own.

LAGRANGE The name-origin of *LaGrange* has been lost in time, but it is possible the township fathers chose it for its meaning—a farm or farm land, descriptive of the surrounding region. A proprietor, Henry Champion, sold *LaGrange* land to his son-in-law, Elizur Goodrich, who later swapped part of it with James Pelton, Nathan Clark, Roger Phelps and Noah Holcomb for land they held in Jefferson County, New York. These four men explored their new property in 1825 and Nathan Clark stayed on. The next year brought the arrival of Holcomb, Sylvester Merriam and Joseph Graves. The township was organized in 1827.

LORAIN Proprietor Heman Ely of Elyria supplied the name of *Lorain* as well as Elyria. He suggested the name of the French province of Lorraine which had impressed him during his European sojourn with its pleasant landscape. In popular usage, the spelling was simplified.

The Moravian missionary, David Zeisburger, made a brief settlement at the mouth of *Lorain's* Black River as early as 1787 and then moved farther west. Twenty years later Vermonter Nathan Perry saw commercial possibilities in the location and opened a trading post and store. He employed Amariah Beebe and his wife to tend the counter and keep the books. John Reid arrived in *Lorain* in 1810 and built a home that later became the community center, post office, justice's office and tavern. The next few years brought George and Andrew Kelso, Joseph Quigley, Quartus and Aretus Gilmore and Jacob Shupe, who purchased their land from Connecticut owner Conrad Reid. Two other Connecticut men, Augustus Jones and William Murdock, were given land along the Black River in 1818 to compensate for the burning of their shipyards on

the Connecticut River by the British. In 1820 these same men were building ships in new shipyards on the banks of the Black River. The first steamboat turned out in the *Lorain* yards bore the good Yankee name of *Bunker Hill.*

With such ambitious settlers the village developed and was incorporated in 1836 under the name of Charleston, perhaps in reminiscence of Charleston, Massachusetts, another early shipbuilding town. When the railroad through northern Ohio was built in the mid-century it went through Elyria, bypassing Charleston, which then declined in population and commercial activity as a result and lost its charter. With the rise of the steel industry, however, and the construction of the Cleveland, Lorain and Wheeling Railroad in 1872, the village revived and was granted a new charter in 1876. The building of the Nickel Plate Railroad in the 1880's, and at the turn of the century, the coming of the National Tube, American Stove and the American Shipbuilding Companies, assured *Lorain* a prosperous industrial future.

NORTH EATON Chief community in Eaton township. See Eaton.

NORTH RIDGEVILLE Chief community in Ridgeville township. See Ridgeville.

OBERLIN The name of *Oberlin* college and *Oberlin* village was chosen to honor Jean Frederic Oberlin, a Lutheran pastor in Alsace, France, whose system of manual labor education in his school at Steinhal, intrigued the founders of Oberlin College. The founders, two young missionaries Philo Stewart and John Shipherd, who were schoolmates at Pawlet Academy, Vermont, had become inspired by the work of David Bacon and John Badger, agents of the Connecticut Missionary Society in the West. Serving as missionaries in Elyria in 1832, Stewart and Shipherd decided to found a school to train as missionaries "young men on the spot and not in far-away, civilized Connecticut and Massachusetts". They would admit women (a revolutionary decision) and provide manual labor training so that students might learn to work with their hands and thus be able to meet frontier conditions.

Convinced of divine direction to establish the new institution in the heart of a wilderness several miles south of Elyria in Russia township, Shipherd prevailed on proprietors Titus Street and Samuel Hughes of the Connecticut Land Company to sell at a reasonable figure. Stewart, meanwhile, worked to perfect a cooking stove to be manufactured at the new institution, the profits from which would, he hoped, support the college. In December, 1833, Oberlin opened its doors to Negroes as well as whites, to women as well as men students.

PENFIELD It is appropriate that the Cornish word "pen" means "head" or "top" since *Penfield* was named for the most prominent family in the township. Peter Penfield arrived in 1812 with his friend, Calvin Spencer. He hired Seth Ingersoll to build a house for

him and then went home to up-state New York. The next year he returned with his brother, Lothrop Penfield, and two years later another brother, Samuel, joined them. The township was organized in 1825 with a meeting at the Penfield home. After the request to name the community Richmond was turned down by county commissioners, it was voted to adopt *Penfield*.

PITTSFIELD Organized in 1831, this township took the name *Pittsfield* for the Massachusetts town which had been the home of many of its pioneers. Proprietors Ebenezer Devotion and William Perkins obtained land here in the Connecticut Land Company drawing of 1807. It was not until 1820 that Thomas and Jeffrey Waite made clearings and built cabins. Henry and Chauncey Remington followed soon after. There was no frame house in the township until 1842.

RIDGEVILLE Rootstown was the first name for *Ridgeville* township—so called for Ephriam Root, Hartford attorney and original proprietor. It was soon changed to *Ridgeville* for the sandy ridges—Butternut, Chestnut, Sugar and Center—that run through the township. In recent years the post office changed its name to *North Ridgeville* in order to avoid confusion with the Ridgeville near Dayton. Settlers Oliver and Ichabod Terrell and David Beebe exchanged their farms in Waterbury, Connecticut, for lands in the *Ridgeville* region in 1809. Lyman Root and Joel Terrell came shortly thereafter. The township was organized in 1813.

ROCHESTER When *Rochester* township was organized in 1835, Benjamin Perkins, the land agent, saw to it that the name *Rochester*, for his New York home town, and that of the proprietors Tillotson and Deming, was chosen. The name in Old England is traceable to the Roman occupation, being a combination of the Latin "Durobius" and "castra". Settlers were Elijah Banning, John Baird, Luther Blair and William Shepard. When the Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati Railroad came through in 1849, *Rochester* became an incorporated village.

RUSSIA It is not known how the name *Russia* happened to be adopted for the township. It may have been inspired at the time of organization in 1825 by the recent Russian withdrawal from territory on the Pacific coast of North America. It may have been chosen at random from an atlas, or imported from up-state New York. Proprietors were Titus Street, Isaac Mills and Samuel Hughes. These men gave 500 acres of land to Oberlin College at the request of promoters Stewart and Shipherd. Thomas Waite migrated to *Russia* in 1818; Daniel Rathburne, Walter and Jonathan Buck in 1820 and in 1821, John McCauley, Lyman Wakely and Peter P. Pease, who built a log cabin in the center of what is now Oberlin.

SAMTOWN — Situated in southwestern Camden township, *Samtown* takes its name from Samuel Morgan, the original settler in 1833 and proprietor of the first store.

SHEFFIELD — Imported from Massachusetts is the name of *Sheffield* township. The word derivation in Old England was the following: "shaef" meant separation and was applied to the Shaef River in England which formed the boundary between Lancashire and Yorkshire. Sheffield was a town located on this river. Proprietors of Ohio's *Sheffield* were John Day and Jabez Burrell who bought the land in 1815 from William Hart. Settlers who began coming in 1815 were Jabez and Isaac Burrell, Samuel Fitch, John Day, Joshua Smith, Freeman Richmond and Henry Root. The township was organized in 1824.

SHEFFIELD LAKE — The twentieth century development, *Sheffield Lake*, is a suburb of Lorain. See Sheffield.

SHEFFIELD VILLAGE — Also a Lorain suburb. See Sheffield.

SOUTH AMHERST — See Amherst.

VERMILION-ON-THE-LAKE — The summer resort, *Vermilion-on-the-Lake*, is a development of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. See Vermilion in Erie County.

WELLINGTON — The honor of naming *Wellington* was sold at auction. Charles Sweet won with a bid to chop an 80-rod long roadway through the woods and he chose the name of Charlemont. Unfortunately this name was not acceptable to the other settlers and they offered to take over Sweet's work of clearing the road if he would forget the name. When he agreed, *Wellington* was chosen by common consent. Some are said to have favored the name through admiration of the English "Iron Duke", while others took to it through a desire to honor William Welling, one of the first settlers to migrate to *Wellington*. Proprietors were Frederick Hamlin, James Adams, Frederick Herrick and Harmon Kingsbury. Settlers who came in 1818 were William Welling, Ephraim Wilcox, John Clifford, Charles Sweet and Joseph Wilson. The township was organized in 1821.

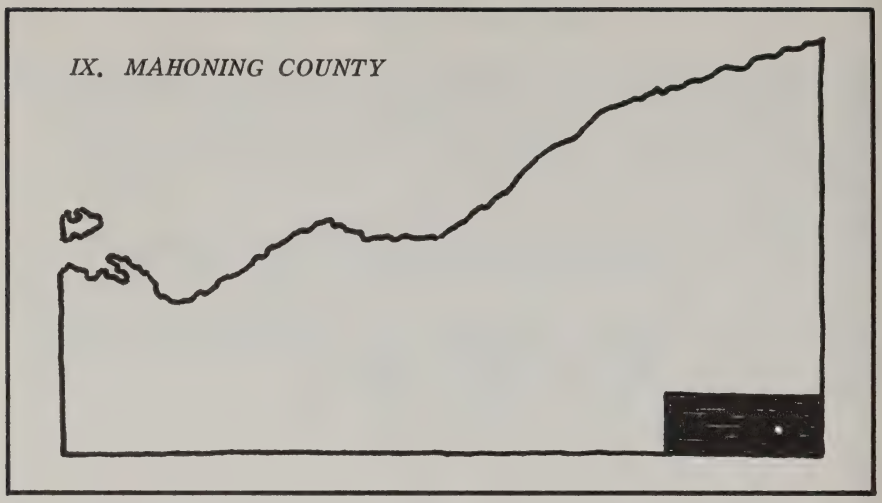
ASHLAND COUNTY

RUGGLES — The township of *Ruggles*, once in Huron County, was named for Almon Ruggles, surveyor of the Firelands (Western Reserve land given to Connecticut residents whose property

was damaged during British raids in the American Revolution), associate judge of Huron County, member of the state legislature, and owner of a large tract in this township. Settlement was begun in the 1820's by Daniel Beach and Justus Barnes. Organization was effected in 1826.

SULLIVAN — *Sullivan* was named for the Sullivan family, early settlers. The township was organized in 1828.

TROY — *Troy* was named for the town in up-state New York—home of many early settlers. It was settled in the 1830's and organized as a township in 1835.



AUSTINTOWN Although early records of *Austintown* were destroyed by fire, it is clear that it was named for Eliphalet Austin, organizer of the Torringford Land Company, founder of Austinburg in Ashtabula County and judge of Trumbull County in 1800. Settlers included John McCollum, an arrival of 1798, Wendell Grove, Benjamin Leach and James Russell.

BALDWIN CORNERS This community in northeastern Milton township was named for the pioneer Baldwin family.

BEAVER A large number of beaver found in the vicinity inspired the name for *Beaver*. Pioneers Jacob Gilbert, John Shanefelt, Adam Little, William Stewart and Abraham Miller organized it as a township in 1811.

BELOIT VILLAGE Smithfield Station was once the name for *Beloit Village*. It was changed to *Beloit* in 1863 in honor of the Wisconsin town where the Republican Party, then in power, was born. The community grew up around a station on what in the mid-19th century was called the Pittsburgh, Ft. Wayne and Chicago Railroad (now the Pennsylvania).

BERLIN Once known as Hart and Mather's Township for proprietors William Hart and Samuel Mather, it took the name of *Berlin* when organized in 1828. The change was at the suggestion of Matthias Glass, a native German who built a saw-grist mill in *Berlin*. Garrett Packard started the migration to *Berlin* in 1809 and then came Jacob Weldy, George Baum, Abraham Hawn and Matthias Glass.

BOARDMAN Proprietor Elijah Boardman provided the name for *Boardman* township, organized in 1806. In 1798 Boardman came with six men, including Nathaniel and Ebenezer Blakeley, and ran survey lines. All but the Blakeleys went back to Connecticut, and although Boardman himself never returned, his son Henry settled on his father's land in 1819. Other Yankee settlers were Abner Webb, William Drake, Eli Baldwin and Haynes Fitch.

CALLA In northeastern Green township, the community of *Calla* is named for the calla lilies grown in profusion by the pioneer Templin family.

CAMPBELL In 1926, in order to insure its separate municipal existence, East Youngstown changed its name to *Campbell*, thereby honoring James A. Campbell, one-time President of the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company located within *Campbell's* limits.

CANFIELD The memory of Judson Canfield, proprietor, was perpetuated in the naming of *Canfield* township. In Old English "can" meant beautiful, hence "Canfield"or "beautiful field" seemed appropriate for this community. Nathaniel Church ran the survey lines of the township in 1798 and settlement began with Champion Minor, Samuel Gilson, James Pangburn and Judson Canfield. Organization came in 1800.

COITSVILLE Daniel Coit, Connecticut Land Company stockholder, secured the *Coitsville* region, gave it his name and opened land sales in 1798. Amos Loveland, John Bissell, Asa Mariner and Rev. William Wick, "a preacher of considerable force" who organized the first church body (Presbyterian) in the Western Reserve, migrated to *Coitsville* in 1800. Organization occurred in 1807 and a post office was established in 1827.

CORNERSBURG Because it is situated at the intersection of the Tippacanoe and Canfield roads, *Cornersburg* received its name.

CRAIG BEACH VILLAGE Situated on the western shore of Milton Reservoir, *Craig Beach Village* takes its name from the Craig family, early settlers.

ELLSWORTH Oliver Ellsworth, prominent Connecticut leader, a framer of the United States Constitution, and a large land owner in the Reserve, bestowed his name on *Ellsworth*. Captain Joseph Coit migrated to *Ellsworth* in 1804 and served as a land agent for his uncle, Daniel Coit. Fellow settlers were Penuel Cheney and Thomas Jones. The township was organized in 1810.

FITCH — In the center of Coitsville township, *Fitch* is named for John H. Fitch, one of Youngstown's outstanding business leaders in the early 20th century.

GARFIELD — *Garfield* village took its name in the 1870's to honor James A. Garfield, Congressman and later President from Ohio.

GOSHEN — Transplanted from Connecticut was the name for *Goshen* township, organized in 1810. Early Yankees in the community were Anthony Morris, Thomas and Barzilla French, Howard Horton, and David Venable.

GREEN — The records for *Green* do not show a Green among the early settlers nor among the proprietors at the time of township organization in 1806. Perhaps the name was chosen simply as descriptive of the fields and forests. Henry Pyle came to the settlement from Germany in 1804, followed by Henry Beard, James Webb and Eben Newton.

JACKSON — In 1834, when the post office was established, this township was named after Andrew Jackson, then President of the United States. It was fitting that "Old Hickory", a Scotch-Irishman himself, should have been honored, since Scotch-Irish frontiersmen from Pennsylvania made the township's initial clearing—Samuel Calhoun and William Orr being the first in 1803.

KNAUFVILLE — The hamlet of *Knaufville* in southeastern Ellsworth township, was named for the Knauf family, early settlers.

LIPKEY'S CORNERS — The pioneer Lipkey family gave their name to *Lipkey's Corners*.

MCKAY'S CORNERS — James McKay, president of the Home Savings and Loan Company of Youngstown in 1900, who owned a farm at *McKay's Corners*, provided the name of this community in eastern Boardman township.

MILTON — Milton, Connecticut, is probably the inspiration for *Milton*, Ohio. Settlers included Amos Porter, John Vanetten, Samuel Linton and Samuel Bowles.

MINERAL RIDGE — On the northern edge of Austintown township, this community was christened *Mineral Ridge* for its coal mines developed in the 1870's by Henry Smith & Company.

NEW ALBANY The capital of New York State, from which many of the Reserve's pioneers came, inspired the name for *New Albany* in western Green township.

NEW MIDDLETOWN Since many of the settlers of *New Middletown* migrated from Pennsylvania, it is probable that the village's name was brought from Middletown, Pa. Samuel Moore laid out the village in 1825.

NORTH BENTON William Smith platted the village of *North Benton* in northern Smith township in 1834 and named it for Senator Thomas Hart Benton, the fiery Senator from Missouri, whom Smith greatly admired. "North" was prefaced to the name to distinguish it from another town of Benton in Ohio.

NORTH LIMA The name *Lima* was no doubt imported from New York, which in turn had taken it from Lima, Peru. The "North" was added to avoid confusion with the other Lima, Ohio. The village was laid out in 1826 by James Simpson.

PATMOS During an argument over a choice of name for this town, a music book fell open to the song "Patmos". Taken as a prophetic sign, this settled the name. Among the men who built *Patmos* were Benjamin Regle, John Templin and Levi Leyman.

PETERSBURG At first called Musser's Mill for Peter Musser, an early Pennsylvania trailblazer of 1801, *Petersburg* was re-christened, this time taking its founder's first name instead of his last.

POLAND Known at first as Fowler's, for the tavern built in 1804 by Jonathan Fowler, the town later changed its name to *Poland* in honor of George Poland, another early pioneer. The first arrival in *Poland* was Turhand Kirtland, who came in 1798 with a party of seven surveyors. Kirtland returned with his family the next year, settled, and was elected state senator in 1814 and later county judge. John Struthers was another early resident. The village became incorporated in 1866.

SEBRING The village of *Sebring* in southern Smith township, was named for its founder, George Sebring.

SMITH When William Smith, for whom the township was named, arrived in 1804, he found that squatter James Carter had mistakenly built a house and barn on the land Smith had bought. Smith paid Carter for the improvements and moved in. His neighbors were James Stanley, John Detchon, Levi Rakestraw and George Hoadley. Township organization took place in 1821.

SNODES A pioneer family is remembered in the naming of *Snodes* in northeastern Smith township.

SPRINGFIELD The presence of many springs within its borders suggested the name for *Springfield.* Pennsylvanians Peter Musser, Israel Warner, James Wallace, John Pontius, Daniel Miller and George Stump made the first clearings in 1801, and in 1803 the township was organized.

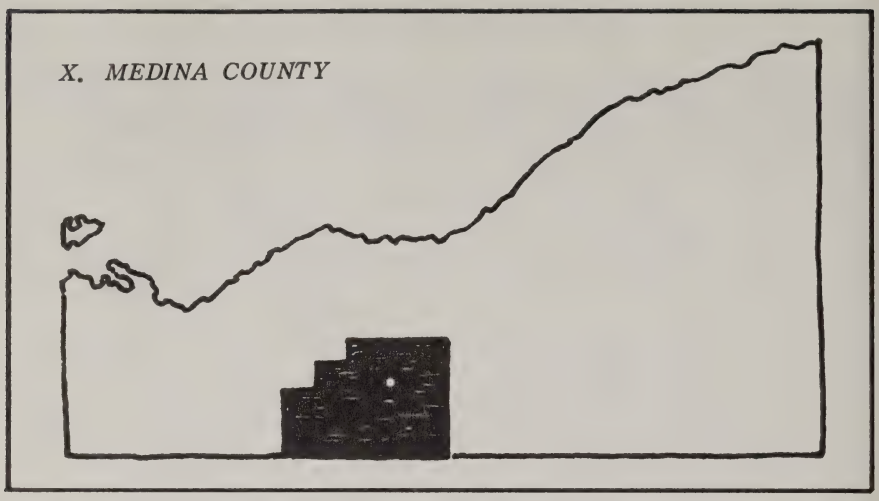
STRUTHERS In 1798 Captain John Struthers of the Pennsylvania militia chased a band of marauding Indians up the Mahoning valley. He must have stopped long enough, however, to look around, because he purchased 400 acres at the mouth of Yellow Creek from Turhand Kirtland and settled his family there in 1799. For him, the township was named.

Struthers' son Thomas established the village in 1866. In 1900 a Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company plant opened in *Struthers*, bringing increased prosperity and population until the community was incorporated as a city in 1920.

YOUNGSTOWN Frontiersman John Young came to the Western Reserve in 1794 presumably to help with surveying. In 1797 he built a cabin on the banks of the Mahoning River, and the following year, Turhand Kirtland helped him lay out the plat of a village to bear Young's name. By the time Young moved to New York in 1804, over 200 settlers had moved into his township, a church had been organized by Rev. William Wick, and James and Daniel Heston had discovered iron ore along Yellow Creek and had opened a smelting furnace.

In 1826 coal mining began in the region and twenty years later *Youngstown* village was incorporated. The Civil War, with its demand for iron and steel products, boosted Youngstown to city status and made it a county seat by 1876. The development of the Bessemer

process further expanded industry, and the organization of the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company at the turn of the century meant still greater prosperity. By the mid-20th century Youngstown ranked seventh in population in Ohio.



ABBEYVILLE In 1831, a Canadian, Levi Janes, built a saw and grist mill along the Rocky River in the northwest corner of Medina Township and called the new settlement for his wife, Abbey, adding the French "ville".

BEEBETOWN Named for its first inhabitant, Adam Beebe, who bought 50 acres in Litchfield township from proprietor Daniel Coit, *Beebetown* was settled in 1824. Beebe brought with him two yoke of oxen, ten sheep and one cow. He was joined by his brothers, Roderick and Benjamin, and Hollis Newton.

BENNETTS CORNERS The crossroads in northwestern Hinckley township known as *Bennetts Corners* was named for Salathiel Bennett who came to the Reserve in the 1820's.

BRUNSWICK If other Yankees in the Western Reserve had followed the example of *Brunswick's* residents, there would have been fewer arguments. In 1818 they simply put a batch of names in a hat, and the one drawn out was *Brunswick.* Whether this was for the place of that name in New Jersey, Canada, or Germany the records do not indicate.

Immediately after the War of 1812 future *Brunswick* citizens entered the Reserve. They were James Stearns, Solomon and Frederick Deming, John Hulet, Jacob Ward, Peter and John Berdan and William Root. Under Ward's leadership, a Methodist Society was organized in 1817, and a Congregational church two years later. The township was established in 1818.

CHATHAM This township was organized in 1833, the name being imported from Chatham, New York, just east of the Hudson River. The land was given by the Connecticut Land Company proprietors to compensate buyers of swampy, unusable land in

Harrisville township. In 1818 New Yorker Moses Parsons, *Chatham's* original pioneer, bought several hundred acres from Joseph Harris, the resident land agent for owner Samuel Hinckley of Massachusetts. Other New Yorkers soon followed Parson' lead—Nathan Hall and Henry Joline in 1820, Amos Utter and Phineas Davis in 1821.

CHIPPEWA-ON-THE-LAKE — *Chippewa-on-the-Lake* was named for the lake it borders, the lake in turn being named for the Algonquin Indian tribe that roamed the upper Great Lakes and upper Mississippi area. Hunters were known to have built cabins along the lake as early as 1815. Not until 1870, after the county drained the swamp land, did settlement become permanent. In that year Ed Andrews, who owned land along the shore, started a resort by building a restaurant, dance hall, boat pier, roller coaster and merry-go-round. In 1920 the Chippewa Lake Park Company bought the lake and most of the surrounding land and sold lots for cottages. At first a summer resort, the community gradually became a permanent place of residence and an incorporated village.

CODDINGVILLE — This community was settled in 1817-18 by brothers John and Burt Codding, James Ganyard, Anthony Lowe and Daniel and Benjamin Burt, all of whom were Connecticut Yankees residing in up-state New York who bought their land here from owner Gideon Granger. What is believed to be the first temperance society in Ohio was organized here in 1829 under the lead of the Codding brothers who issued a declaration of temperance independence and a constitution for the society.

ESSELBRUN — In western Harrisville township, this place was named for pioneer Louis Esselbrun, who built a store here in 1872.

FRIENDSVILLE — As the name suggests, *Friendsville* was named for the Friends (Quakers) who settled there.

GLORIA GLENS — This twentieth-century village on Chippewa Lake is of recent origin, likely named from the scenery and the first name of the wife of one of its promotors.

GRANGER — Upon organization of *Granger* township in 1820, the names Berlin, Ontario, Codding and Granger were proposed. Voters decided in favor of the last to honor Gideon Granger, the proprietor who had served as Postmaster-General in Thomas Jefferson's cabinet and labored prominently in the settling of the Western Reserve. Early arrivals in *Granger* were Nathan Hatch, Isaac Sippey and Elizur Hills.

GUILFORD Most of *Guilford's* founders were transplanted New Englanders from up-state New York. When they organized their township in 1819 they carried over the name of *Guilford* from towns of that name in Connecticut and New York.

Proprietors were Roger Newberry, Justin Ely, Enoch Perkins and Elijah White. The land was cleared in 1816 by brothers Henry and Chester Hosmer, Shubal Porter, Moses Nobel and Lyman Munson.

HARD-SCRABBLE In northern Liverpool township, *Hardscrabble* was once more properly called Marysville for the wife of proprietor Henry H. Coit. It soon became known as *Hardscrabble* because of the rush or "scrabble" made by settlers to purchase its land. The village was platted in 1837.

HARRISVILLE The township of *Harrisville* was organized in 1816 and a post office established in 1834. Both were named for Joseph Harris, principal proprietor and land agent for the Torrington Land Company that had bought the township from the Connecticut Land Company. He was assisted by George and Russell Burr.

HINCKLEY This township was named for Judge Samuel Hinckley of Northampton, Massachusetts, who bought it from the Connecticut Land Company. Hinckley, a prominent, able attorney, brother-in-law of Governor Caleb Strong of Massachusetts, and a shrewd speculater, who became wealthy through his dealing in Western Reserve lands, appointed his son-in-law Joseph Lyman as his land agent in the Reserve. Because this township was hilly and rough, land sales and settlement were slow, Wyandot and Seneca Indians were still hunting in *Hinckley* long after surrounding areas had been occupied. Finally, a land survey was made in 1819 by Abraham Freeze of Brunswick, and Frederick Deming made the first clearing in 1820.

Hinckley and Strong, who owned a neighboring township, disagreed as to whether lands should be sold at once, Strong arguing for quick sale because taxes and interest would eat up potential gains. Hinckley told Strong: "Why, the time will come when the Ohio lands will sell for more than $10 per acre." "Yes", replied Strong, "but before that time comes, you and I will be in Heaven." "Ah, that's the devil of it", exclaimed the judge. Settlers soon bought much of Hinckley's land and organized a township in 1825 naming it for the proprietor on the latter's promise to give 100 acres for school purposes. Reminded of his generosity the next year during his annual visit to collect payments, Hinckley tried to dodge the promise, referring to sickness in his family, heavy losses in other lands, but finally he agreed to turn over two acres to the community.

HOMER The township of *Homer* was organized in 1833 and named, at the suggestion of an anonymous circuit-riding preacher, for the Greek poet. Early pioneers included John Park,

Isaac, Asa, and Samuel Vanderhood, Duncan Williams, Elijah Wing and James and Joseph Crawford. A brief mining rush occurred in the township in 1847 when a small quantity of lead was discovered along the banks of the Black River.

LAFAYETTE When organized in 1832, *Lafayette* township took the name of the Revolutionary War hero who had only recently made a triumphal tour of America. There were squatters in the region as early as 1815 but no permanent dwellers until William Bissett in 1825. Later arrivals were Amos Hubbard, Ephriam Harris, Abraham Brooks, Garrett Spitzer, and Milo Loomis.

LEROY Whether *Leroy* was named for one of the settlers or because the residents liked the sound of the French word for "The King" is not known. The township was settled in 1817 and organized in 1820.

LITCHFIELD Litchfield, Connecticut, home of proprietor Judge Uriel Holmes inspired the name of *Litchfield*, Ohio. In the beginning this township was called Holmestown for the proprietor himself, but when Holmes failed to buy the township as he had contracted, the Company took possession. When settlement began in 1830 under Cyrus Cook, Jonathan Richards and Thomas and George Wilcox, it was decided to use the name of the original proprietor's home town, which was also the home of many of the pioneers.

LIVERPOOL A salt spring and works in *Liverpool* are responsible for the name. At first the region was known simply as Salt Spring Town, but when organized in 1816, the township took the name of Liverpool, no doubt for Liverpool, England, where there were also extensive salt works. The proprietor, Daniel Coit, sold land to Justus Warner and Moses Deming, who arrived just before the War of 1812. Henry H. Coit, son of the owner, moved to *Liverpool* and formed a partnership with Justus Warner in developing the salt spring.

LODI A bitter argument raged over the naming of *Lodi*, the principal village in Harrisville township. While the battle went on, a villager, who was also a student of history, was reminded of Napoleon's battle at Lodi during the Italian campaign. Seeing the simularity, the wrangling residents voted in favor of Lodi. *Lodi's* beginning came in 1818 when William Barnes built a grist mill, distillery and carding mill on the east branch of the Black River.

MALLET CREEK The community of *Mallet Creek* in central York township took its name from early pioneer Henry Mallett, who brought his family here in 1819. The second "t" was eventually dropped.

MARYSVILLE See Hardscrabble.

MEDINA (Township) Two explanations—one matter-of-fact, the other romantic—seek to account for the name origin of *Medina.* The first asserts that it was named for Medina, New York. The second holds that in 1818 proprietor Elijah Boardman, a widely read man, called the township Mecca (birthplace of Mohammed), intending the area to be the "end of the trail" for Yankees moving west. When it was discovered that there was already a Mecca in Trumbull County, the name was changed to *Medina,* the Arabian burial place of Mohammed and therefore also an object of pilgrimage.

Principal proprietor was Elijah Boardman, a shrewd real estate promoter. Lesser owners included a brother, Homer Boardman, Judson Canfield and Roger Skinner. Four years after the 1810 survey of the township, Zenas Hamilton made the initial settlement. Rufus Ferris, land agent, sold land to James Moore, James Palmer, Abijah Marsh, Noah Bronson, Joseph Northrop, Stephen Sargent, and Giles and Isaac Barnes. The township was organized in 1818 with a saw mill near its center at a hamlet called Bagdad—since vanished from the map.

MEDINA (City) The name for *Medina* city was, of course, taken from the township. In 1818 a village was platted in the southwest corner of Medina (then Mecca) township. Abraham Freeze ran the survey and Elijah Boardman gave 237 acres of land to have the county seat located at this point.

County court held its first session in *Medina* in 1818, while Captain Austin Badger opened a tavern that year to provide shelter and food for those who came to the court from a distance. Sherman Bronson owned the first store on the public square in 1819 and Rufus Ferris became the first postmaster. The town grew rapidly and became an incorporated village in 1835. The large fire of 1870 destroyed the business block, many residences, the court house and its records. By 1950's census, having passed the 5,000 population mark, Medina became a city.

MONTVILLE In 1818 General Aristarchus Champion bought the *Montville* area from the Connecticut Land Company and named it for towns in Connecticut and Vermont. Because the terrain was hilly, no one doubted the appropriateness of the choice. The township marks the divide between streams that flow southward to the Ohio River and the Gulf of Mexico and those that flow northward to Lake Erie, the St. Lawrence River and the Atlantic Ocean. Captain Austin Badger, who helped Abraham Freese with the land survey, moved into the northwestern corner of the township. Other settlers included Samuel Brown, Parley Pelton, Welton and Amasa Smith. In 1823 a road, part of the Cleveland-Wooster pike, was built through the township by Pelton, Welton and Badger. The township was organized in 1820.

PAWNEE Some early inhabitant of the Western Reserve probably liked the sound of the western plains Indians' tribal name and chose it for his new Ohio home town.

POE There is no record of how *Poe* received its name, but it is likely the name of an early settler.

REMSEN CORNERS An up-state New Yorker named Remsen (his first name has long since been lost) was proprietor of the "Corners" in northwestern Granger township and gave them his name. He willed the region to his children with the stipulation that it could not be sold until all had reached 21 years of age. Land sales and settlement were hence delayed, with the first sale in 1845 at $10 per acre.

RISLEY Not a settler but an officer of the railroad which passes through *Risley* in southern Litchfield township is thought to be the name source.

RIVERS CORNERS This crossroads, close to the Black River in eastern Spencer township, was appropriately named *River Corners*.

RIVER STYX At first called Wilson's Corners for brothers David and John Wilson who came in 1815, this village changed names because there was another post office of that name. Since this part of Guilford township was swampy and dismal in appearance, the early surveyors, who heartily detested the job of running their lines through here, referred to it as "the infernal regions" and called the sluggish stream that ran through the territory the *River Styx* for the stream bordering Hades in ancient mythology. With the post office name needing to be changed, this name became official.

SEVILLE — Known for many years simply as "Burgh", the village of *Seville* was renamed at the suggestion of a passing poet who was reminded of Seville, Spain, by the junction of two streams here—the Chippewa and Hubbard. In 1816 John Hosmer made the first clearing in *Seville*. In the late 19th century it was noted as the home of Captain M. V. Bates, long billed by Barnum and Bailey's circus as "the world's tallest man".

SHARON — At first known as Mather, the township changed its name to Gask for the Scotch home town of pioneer Peter More. The land survey was made in 1827. Earliest settlers included David Point, Charles McFarlin and Samuel Hayden. When the township was organized in 1830, the residents voted to re-christen it *Sharon* in honor of the Connecticut home town of Mrs. Samuel Hayden. Proprietors were Samuel Mather and William Hart.

SHARON CENTER — See Sharon for name details. The village of *Sharon Center* is situated in the middle of the township.

SPENCER — After *Spencer* township was organized in 1832, the name of Marshfield was proposed for John P. Marsh, who came to the community in 1823. The residents objected that this was inappropriate for the rolling farm land. When Calvin Spencer, who ran a saw mill, offered to give $50 worth of lumber to build a schoolhouse if the town were named for him, the voters quickly accepted his offer.

SPENCER VILLAGE — Once called Centerville because of its location at the center of Spencer township, *Spencer Village* gradually came to use the name of its township.

VALLEY CITY — See Liverpool township for details on settlement. The name was chosen because of the village's location in the valley of the Rocky River's west branch.

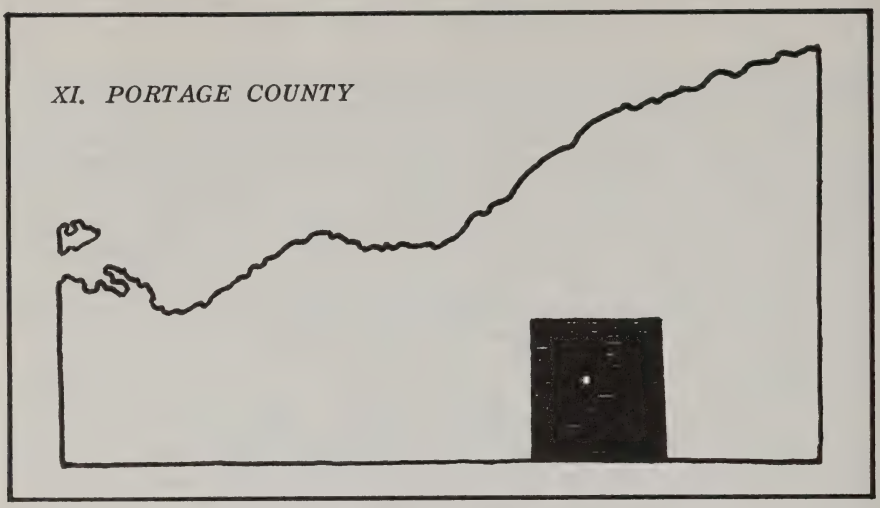
WADSWORTH (Township) — General Elijah Wadsworth, Revolutionary War veteran of Litchfield, Connecticut, bought most of *Wadsworth* township and in 1799 settled in Canfield where he remained until his death in 1817. Wadsworth succeeded in getting the first mail route established in the Western Reserve in 1801 and served for a time as county sheriff. The township was understandably named for him. The first settlers arrived in 1814—Connecticut Yankees Daniel Dean and Oliver Durham. They were followed in the next few years by brothers George, Christopher and William Rasor, Henry and Samuel Falconer, Salmon Warner, Samuel Blocker, Daniel Ware, Abraham Hard and Jacob Miller. Allen Pardee and his six brothers came between 1818 and 1832, as did Albert Hinsdale, father of Burke A. Hinsdale, later famous as president of Hiram College.

WADSWORTH (City) For name details see Wadsworth township. *Wadsworth* city grew up at the junction of the Cleveland-Coshocton road and the Akron-Tiffin road. Frederick Brown built the first house in the village in 1816. From a population of 227 in 1818, the village grew steadily until the 1860 census showed 1,720 residents. The opening of coal mines nearby brought in the Atlantic and Great Western Railroad (now Erie) in 1863 and when incorporated as a village in 1866, Wadsworth boasted 2,052 inhabitants. The location of the Ohio Match Company here further boosted the community's prosperity and *Wadsworth* assumed city status in 1911.

WESTFIELD Westfield, Massachusetts, home town of proprietor James Fowler, supplied the name for *Westfield*, Ohio. Hammer Palmer, Joseph Winston, Henry Thorndike, Richard, John and Benjamin Morton and Timothy Nye chose the town for their home in 1817. Organization came in 1820.

WEYMOUTH Lathrop Seymour, who came to *Weymouth* in 1820, established a mill and a store. Hiram Bronson, who arrived shortly afterward, bestowed the name of his home town in Massachusetts on this community.

YORK Since most of *York's* founders came from up-state New York, they named their township *York* upon its organization in 1830. In Old England, the Saxon word "Eoforwic" became the Norse "Iorvik" which became Anglicized as "York". Proprietors were Elijah Hubbard, Samuel and James Mather and Thomas and William Sill. After a road was built through the township in 1830, the first settler, George Wilson, came, followed by Levi and Lawson Branch, Harvey Bruce and Solomon Hubbard.



ATWATER Caleb Atwater, an original stockholder in the Connecticut Land Company and proprietor of *Atwater* township, gave this township his name. He received the *Atwater* land in 1798 and the following year visited his new acquisition with Jonathan Merrick and Asa Hall and his wife. After spending the summer, Atwater and Merrick returned to Wallingford, Connecticut, while the Halls stayed, built a cabin, bought land and started farming. In 1805 Atwater gave the township to his son Joshua. William Hinman was also an early settler.

AURORA Aurora Spafford, daughter of Amos Spafford, one of the principal surveyors in Cleaveland's surveying party of 1796, gave her name to *Aurora* township. Original purchasers of *Aurora* were David, Ebenezer and Fidelio King, Gideon Granger and Ebenezer Sheldon. Sheldon made the first settlement in June, 1799, and was elected the first justice of the peace. He was soon joined by Samuel Forward, James Henry, Horace Granger and Solomon Cochran.

BRADY LAKE In eastern Franklin township, *Brady Lake* was named for Captain Samuel Brady, famous Indian fighter.

BRIMFIELD Swampton, so called because of the low-lying land, was the first name applied to *Brimfield* township. Next came Greenbriar and then Wylestown for a proprietor, John Wyles. In 1818 the other proprietor, Israel Thorndike, tried to change the name to his, but when he failed to give the land he promised for a public square, the residents voted for *Brimfield* after the Connecticut home of John Wyles, Jr. The choice was appropriate since in Old English "brim" meant "brambles"; therefore, "Brimfield" meant "a field of brambles", quite close to the second identification given the township. The proprietors came to *Brimfield* in 1816 and divided it

evenly between them. Other permanent dwellers were John Boosinger and Israel Thorndike.

CAMPBELLSPORT — Situated in southwestern Charlestown township, *Campbellsport* was named for pioneer John Campbell who arrived in 1805 to act as land agent for proprietor Samuel Hinckley.

CHARLESTOWN — The township was named for Charles Curtiss when he generously contributed a barrel of whiskey to the Congregational church-raising celebration. John Morgan, trustee of the Connecticut Land Company, sold *Charlestown* to Samuel Hinckley and the township was known for a time by Hinckley's name. Settlers, who began arriving in 1809 principally from Granville and Blandford, Massachusetts, included Abel Forcha, David Cox, John Baldwin and Charles and David Curtiss. Township organization took place in 1814.

DEERFIELD — Early residents Lewis Ely and Lewis Day, who bought land from Gideon Granger and Oliver Phelps, settled in *Deerfield* in 1799 after a long wagon trip overland from Connecticut. It was Day who persuaded the township's inhabitants to select the name *Deerfield* after his mother's home town in Massachusetts.

EDINBURG — At first known as Eddysburg, this township commemorated Levius Eddy, the township's first land buyer, and his brothers Justin and Alanson, early settlers. Eddysburg gradually became pronounced *Edinburg* in popular usage. Original proprietors were William Hart and Samuel Mather and *Edinburg* was known for a time as "Hart and Mather Township". Although the next owner, Levius Eddy, never came west, his two brothers Justin and Alanson did—settling in *Edinburg* in 1815. They were preceded several years earlier by Eber Abbott and Lemuel Chapman. Justin Eddy was the first justice of the peace.

FRANKLIN — Benjamin Franklin, patron saint of Pennsylvania, from which state so many of this town's pioneers came, was revered in the naming of *Franklin* township in 1815. Proprietor was Aaron Olmsted who arranged the surveying to start in 1803. A year later Benjamin Tappan opened a road through *Franklin*, running from Ravenna to Hudson. In 1805 George Haymaker moved in from Pittsburgh and was followed the next year by his brother and father. Another brother, Frederick Haymaker, just back from the ill-starred Aaron Burr expedition, settled in *Franklin* in 1807 and became the father of 27 children. After the arrival of Jacob Reed in 1811, the community was called Reedsburg for a time.

FREEDOM — The name *Freedom* was suggested by Mrs. Charles Paine, wife of settler Charles Paine. Legend has it

that she was a great lover of liberty, but one early settler declared, "She suggested the name in consequence of quite a number of inhabitants having left sundry debts when they came out" from the East. Once called North Rootstown for proprietor Ephraim Root, *Freedom* attracted its first settler in 1818 when Charles Paine, son of General Edward Paine of Painesville, established his family in the township. A few years later Thomas Johnston, Newell Day, Asa Wadsworth and Rufus Ranney arrived.

GARRETTSVILLE — Colonel John Garrett, for whom the township is named, made the first settlement in *Garrettsville* in 1804, built a grist and saw mill, and provided a lot for a Baptist church before his death in 1806. He left a widow, who survived him by 40 years, and four children. The village grew slowly, developing as a trading center for the surrounding farming area. It became a township in 1874.

HIRAM — When this township was organized in the early 1800's, Colonel Daniel Tilden, one of its proprietors proposed the name *Hiram* in honor of "the widow's son", the "Illustrious Ancient Master Workman" on Solomon's Temple, and patron saint of the Masons. Since Tilden and his fellow proprietors were Masons, the name was fitting. Original Connecticut proprietors were Daniel Green, Joseph Metcalf, Levi Case, John Fitch, Joseph Burnham and Joseph Perkins, most of whom did not settle in the Reserve. Settlement began with William Williams in 1799 and was later furthered by Elijah Mason, Elisha Hutchinson, Mason Tilden, and others from Connecticut and New York. *Hiram* village is the home of Hiram College as well as the highest point in the Western Reserve—1,300 feet above sea level.

INDUSTRY — Since it was located along the Pennsylvania Railroad, *Industry* was probably so named in hopes of attracting manufacturing establishments.

KENT — Up until 1863 *Kent* was known as Franklin Mills, but in that year the name was changed to honor Marvin Kent, who developed the railroad from Warren to Kent. In 1832 Zenas Kent and David Ladd bought the mill built by the Haymaker family on the Cuyahoga River near the center of Franklin township. (Hence the name Franklin Mills.) The next year Kent bought out his partner and in 1836 formed the Franklin Land Company to develop the area. After much of the river's water was diverted to Akron for use in conjunction with the Ohio Canal, Zenas Kent's sons, Henry and Marvin, took over their father's mill property in 1848 and started cotton textile and glass manufacturing. In order to reach raw materials and markets, Marvin Kent developed a railroad to Warren in the 1850's. In appreciation, the community took his name in 1863 and four years later became an incorporated village.

MAHONING — Located in northern Windham township, *Mahoning* takes its name from the Delaware Indian word, "mahonink", meaning "at the salt lick".

MANTUA — When the township was organized in 1810 settler John Leavitt proposed the name *Mantua* in memory of Napoleon's capture of that northern Italian city in 1797. *Mantua* was incorporated as a village in 1898 and at that time Darwin Atwater asked that it be called Amzi for his father, Amzi Atwater, who had served in Cleaveland's surveying party and had settled in this township. The name *Mantua* continued, however. *Mantua* township was sold by the Connecticut Land Company to the Suffield, Cuyahoga and Big Beaver Land Company, owned by 16 stockholders in Litchfield, Connecticut, among whom were David, Fidelio and Ebenezer King, Oliver Phelps and Gideon Granger. After the survey by David Abbott, these settlers arrived in 1798; Abraham Honey, Rufus Edwards, William Crooks, Elias Harmon, and John Leavitt.

NELSON — Although the records offer no evidence, *Nelson's* name was probably taken from Nelson, New York, home of many settlers. Proprietors were Uriel Holmes, Ephraim Root and Timothy Burr; surveyors, Asahel and Delann Mills, who were awarded 100 acres of free land in *Nelson* in 1800; pioneers, Stephen Baldwin, Benjamin Stow and John Bancroft. The township was organized in 1817.

NEW MILFORD — New Milford, Connecticut, was the parent community for the Reserve's *New Milford.*

NORTH BENTON STATION — This place in southeastern Deerfield township was likely named in honor of Senator Thomas Hart Benton of Missouri who was prominently in the news at the time the railroad was built through here in the mid-19th century.

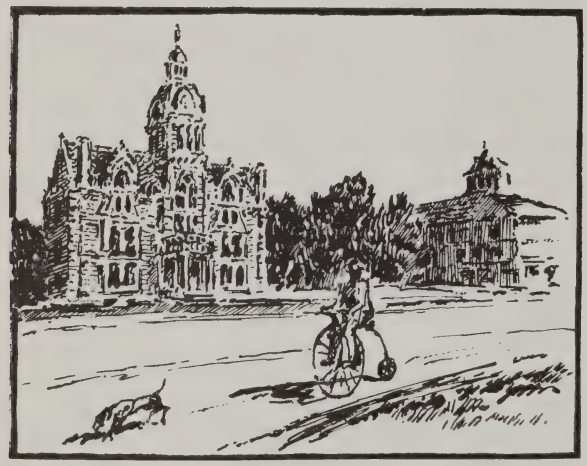
PALMYRA — The name of this town was probably transplanted from up-state New York. Proprietors were Homer, David and Elijah Boardman, Elijah Wadsworth, and Jonathan Giddings. Elijah Boardman, assisted by Amzi Atwater and Wareham Shepherd, made the survey in 1797. David Daniels, Ethelbert Baker and William Bacon moved to *Palmyra* in 1800 and the township was organized in 1810.

PARIS — Residents of *Paris* chose the name of an up-state New York town to identify their new Western Reserve home. Proprietors were Lemuel G. Storrs, Henry Champion, Gideon Granger and Thomas Bull. For a time known as Storrsboro, for Lemuel G. Storrs, the name was changed shortly after the township's organization in 1810. Since the land was not fertile, settlers were not

attracted. Finally in 1811, Richard Hudson moved in, followed by John Bridges and John Cox. Much of this township, and of neighboring Charlestown and Windham townships, is now occupied by the federal government's Ravenna Ordnance Plant.

RANDOLPH In 1810 the township of *Randolph* was named for proprietor Lemuel Storrs' son. Lemuel, reportedly a self-made man of humble origin, employed Anzi Atwater and Wareham Shepherd to survey his newly-acquired land in 1797. Five years later saw the coming of Bela Hubbard, Salmon Ward and Arad Upson. Local legend claims Bela Hubbard as the originator of the "hubbard squash".

RAVENNA A member of the Tappan family, prominent Western Reserve pioneers, was so delighted with the charm of the Italian city of Ravenna that he urged the change of his township's name from Tappanville to *Ravenna*. The township's chief proprietor sent his son, Benjamin Tappan, Jr., to the township in 1799 as land agent. In 1808 the younger Tappan laid out the plat of a city and gave the land for the court house, public square and cemetery. Although he always maintained a law office in *Ravenna*, he moved to Steubenville and served in the Ohio legislature and the United States Senate. His brothers, Arthur and Lewis of New York City, were active leaders of the anti-slavery crusade. Besides Tappan, the earliest inhabitants of *Ravenna* were Benjamin Bigsby, William Chard and Conrad Boosinger who came to the township before 1800. Jesse Haslip opened the first general store in 1812 and for a time, Jesse Grant, father of Ulysees S. Grant, operated a tannery in *Ravenna*. Incorporated as a village in 1853, *Ravenna* became the county seat of Portage County.



ROOTSTOWN Since Ephraim Root, one of the chief stockholders in the Connecticut Land Company, owned most of the land in *Rootstown*, it was only natural that his name was selected at the town's christening. A well-known lawyer in his home town of Coventry, Connecticut, Root visited his new Western Reserve land in 1800 and employed Nathaniel Cook to make the survey. Root made an annual visit

to the township for the next eleven years, and his son, David Root, along with Nathan Muzzy, became the first permanent residents in 1801. Township organization came in 1810.

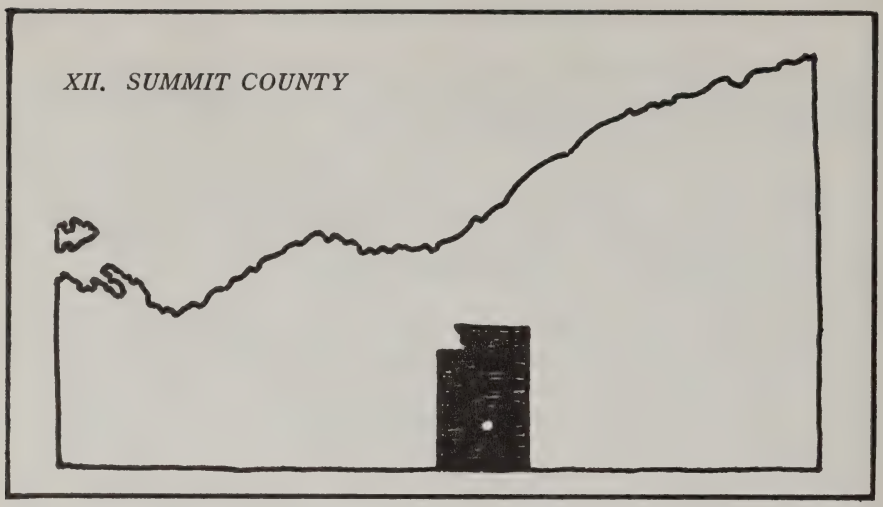
SHALERSVILLE This town, at first known as Middletown, changed its name to *Shalersville* in 1812 for General Nathaniel Shaler, its proprietor. Settlement was made by John Baker, Simeon Crane and Hezekiah Hine between 1801 and 1818.

STREETSBORO Titus Street is remembered in the naming of *Streetsboro*. Proprietor Street withheld his township's land from public sale, hoping for an increase in prices. Finally, after the survey was made by Ralph Cowles in 1822 and land prices had actually fallen from $6 to $2 per acre, Stephen Meyers and George and Samuel Walker moved in.

SUFFIELD At the request of the proprietors, Benejob Kent and Royal Pease, this township was named for their home town, Suffield, Connecticut. Since Pease was the first to arrive, the township was for a time called Peasetown. Among those to settle in *Suffield* were Samuel Hale, John Fitch and Benjamin Baldwin. Baldwin brought apple seed from his Connecticut home and he is said to have developed the Baldwin apple in the Reserve. The township was organized in 1818.

WINDHAM In 1813, when this township was organized, its original name, Strongsburg, was changed to Sharon for a Massachusetts town of that name because the citizens resented Caleb Strong's opposition to the War of 1812. Seven years later, the name was again changed, this time to *Windham* for a Connecticut town. After Governor Caleb Strong of Massachusetts and other owners received title to *Windham*, they sold it to a land company formed at Becket, Massachusetts. In 1811 the Becket Company sent out Oliver and Elijah Alford and Ebenezer and Nathan Messenger to prepare the way for a large migration of Becket people the following year.

YALE Although there are no records to prove it, among the early settlers of this community at the corner of Edinburg, Palmyra, Deerfield and Atwater townships, there must have been a son of "old Eli", who, proud of his alma mater, convinced his fellow citizens to call their new home *Yale*.



AKRON

The earliest settlers in *Akron* were Paul Williams, Amos and Minor Spicer who came here about 1811 from New London, Connecticut. When the route of the Ohio Canal was determined in 1825, General Simon Perkins and Paul Williams filed a

plat of a proposed village, still in the office of the recorder of Portage County, of which this area was then a part. The name was derived from the Greek word *akros* meaning "high point" or "summit". This seemed to the founders appropriate since the new village was located at the high point in what became Summit County and at the highest point in northern Ohio along the Ohio Canal, straddling the divide between the Cuyahoga and Tuscarawas watersheds.

Where the *Akron* Peoples Saving Bank now stands, Henry Clark erected the first building—used as an inn. A store was built across the street, and after the canal came through *Akron*, a shipyard was built in 1827 for canal boats. With the size of the village plat doubling in 1833, a new section of land was taken in as far north as the Little Cuyahoga River. This land belonged to Dr. Eliakim Crosby, who joined with Simon Perkins and Leicester King of Warren in developing the area. Crosby settled in Middlebury, now part of *Akron*, where in 1833 he built a hydraulic mill race to carry water of the Little Cuyahoga from Middlebury to a point on the Canal near Lock Five at the foot of Mill Street, where he built the Old Stone Mill. The name Cascade was for a time applied to the Mill Street part of town, but later it was changed to North Akron. Business flourished in *Akron* and by 1850 there were 3,266 residents. Considerable rivalry developed between North and South Akron since the Old Stone Mill gave North Akron more prosperity.

Akron village, including north and south, was incorporated in 1836. Middlebury was added in 1872 and parts of Tallmadge and Portage townships were annexed in 1882. The rubber industry had its start in *Akron* in 1870 when Benjamin F. Goodrich erected his factory. By 1900 population had grown to 47,728 and fifty years later it reached 273,000, making *Akron* the fifth largest city in the state.

BARBERTON Ohio Columbus Barber, President of the Diamond Match and the American Sewer Pipe Companies, started the city named for him in 1890. He bought 1,000 acres in *Barberton* and moved his match company there from Akron after a dispute with Akron over taxes. Barber had, as a boy, peddled hand-dipped matches, made by his father, in the Middlebury district of Akron. Within a year of its founding, *Barberton* had a railroad line, many factories, a population of 2,000 and was off to a flying start under its nickname, "Magic City". In the southeast section of the city, Barber built a large mansion and developed a model farm of 200 acres operated by himself as a gentleman farmer. When Barber died he willed his farm to Western Reserve University which turned down the bequest since it entailed operating an agricultural experiment station.

Barberton was once a hunting ground for Seneca and Erie Indians. An Indian chief, Hopocan (who burned at the stake the American Revolutionary War officer, Colonel William Crawford and ambushed General Arthur St. Clair, Northwest Territory Governor) is curiously commemorated by a statue in *Barberton*. Being a city built around a large lake is another one of *Barberton's* distinctions.

BATH Jonathan Halle, a man with a sense of humor and imagination, named *Bath*. With township organization in 1818, a name was discussed in the first town meeting. Although some wished to retain Hammondsburg (for landowner Jason Hammond), Halle objected violently: "Oh, call it Jerusalem, or Jericho or Bath—

anything but Hammondsburg." The voters agreed, and it's been *Bath* ever since. When Colonel Rial McArthur ran survey lines through *Bath* territory in 1805, he called it Wheatfield, for no apparent reason since little wheat was grown thereabouts. The proprietors, Ezekiel Williams and Thomas Bull, then sold some choice lots to Jason Hammond, who arrived along with Jonathan Hale, Aaron Miller and Gibson Gates.

BOSTON — In 1807 the early settlers of *Boston* gathered together to give their town a name. Among them was Samuel Ewart who urged Ewartsville and Alfred Wolcott who pushed Wolcottsburg. When an impasse was reached, James Stanford suggested *Boston* for Boston, Massachusetts, and all wearily agreed. (Boston, Massachusetts, came, of course, from Boston, England, which was originally St. Botolf's town.) *Boston* was an "equalizing township", granted to those who had purchased other townships in the Reserve and found them to be swampy and otherwise unusable. The Bronson brothers—Harmon, Levi and Azor—aided by Alfred Wolcott—were the prime forces in settling *Boston*. Wolcott ran the survey in 1805 and settled here in 1806.

BOTZUM — *Botzum*, established as a station on the railroad from Cleveland to Akron, was named for John A. Botzum, a large land owner and respected citizen.

BRANDYWINE — Because John Menaugh, an early Northfield settler, was reminded of the creek where George Washington tried to fight off the British attack on Philadelphia during the Revolution, *Brandywine*, lying between Northfield and Boston townships, was so named.

CHITTENDEN CORNERS — At the intersection of State Routes 8 and 303 lay the farms of Charles G. and John Chittenden. For them *Chittenden Corners* was named.

CLINTON — DeWitt Clinton, Governor of New York, after developing the Erie Canal in New York, came to Ohio in 1825 to officiate at ground-breaking of the Ohio Canal. His name was given to *Clinton*, built along the Ohio Canal about 1825. Originally owned by a wealthy Quaker, Richard Carter, this community did more business between 1825 and 1840 than any other town in Summit County.

COPLEY — Gardner Green at first called the *Copley* area Greenfield, but after a time changed it to *Copley* in honor of his wife, a descendant of Lord Copley of England. The township boasted the first temperance society in Ohio, established by William Codding. Settlers included Jonah Turner, William Green, Jonathan Starr, and Thomas Beckwith.

COVENTRY A disturbance between the canal workmen and local residents while the Ohio Canal was being constructed in 1825-27 decided the name for *Coventry*. A justice of the peace rushed to the scene of the conflict and read the Riot Act. A little confused at the end of his tirade, he cried, "In the name of the State of Coventry, I command you to disperse." The township has been unofficially and locally known as the "State of Coventry" ever since. (In old England the name Coventry came from the Celtic "Cofa's Town".) Daniel Haines came to *Coventry* from Pennsylvania in 1806 and Captain Minor Spicer arrived in 1810.

CUYAHOGA FALLS About 1825 *Cuyahoga Falls* took the name of Manchester, but upon application for a post office a few years later, it was found that there were so many Manchesters, another would only add to the confusion. For the falls in the Cuyahoga River, *Cuyahoga Falls* was then named. Roger Newberry, Joshua Stowe, William Whetmore, Henry Newberry, son of Roger, and Elkanah Richardson were prominent names in the community's early history.

DARROWVILLE George Darrow, surveyor, accompanied David Hudson to the Western Reserve in 1800. He soon acquired land of his own south of the village of Hudson where he laid out a village called Darrow Street. Its name was later changed to *Darrowville*.

FRANKLIN A group of settlers, most of them Pennsylvanians, who came to the Western Reserve at the close of the War of 1812, named their new home for the great Pennsylvanian of the 18th century. *Franklin*, which lies south of the Western Reserve's original southern boundary, was purchased from the United States by a wealthy Quaker, Richard Carter, who hired surveyors to lay out a village called Cartersville, which never materialized. Township organization was in 1817.

GHENT The name origin of *Ghent* in a southern Bath township is in dispute. Some maintain that it originated when a printer erroneously printed tickets for a dance reading, "Lady and Ghent, 10¢". Some believe it is more likely that since *Ghent* was settled at the end of the War of 1812, the name was selected to honor the town in Belgium where the Treaty of Ghent, ending the war, was signed.

GREEN When organized as a township in 1820, *Green* was called for Gardner Green, a large stockholder in the Connecticut Land Company. Settlement began in 1809 by Pennsylvanians John Kepler, John Cruzen, William Triplet and David Hartman.

GREENSBURG See Green township.

HAMMONDS CORNERS Jason Hammond, first settler in Bath township, lent his name to *Hammonds Corners*.

HUDSON It was fitting that *Hudson* was named for David Hudson of Goshen, Connecticut, since he was the first to settle the township and the most active and enthusiastic of its five proprietors. In 1798 when the entire township of 16,000 acres was purchased for 32¢ an acre, David Hudson came to his land via Lake Erie, the Cuyahoga River, and then overland. After clearing some trees and building a small cabin, Hudson returned to his Connecticut home, only to come back to the Reserve in 1800 with his family and a group of 28 to make the first settlement in present Summit County.

At *Hudson* there developed a community that still bears the imprint of New England. In 1826, through the cooperation of Presbyterians and Congregationalists, Western Reserve College, forerunner of Adelbert College of Western Reserve University and Western Reserve Academy, was founded. The displaced Yankees built a college chapel modeled after the one at the college in old New Haven, befitting a "little Yale" of the West. In his youth "God's Angry Man", John Brown, later of Harper's Ferry fame, lived near Hudson, which incidentally was an active station on the "Underground Railroad" for runaway slaves fleeing from the South.

JOHNSON'S CORNERS The "greener fields" of Summit County lured Thomas Johnson away from Franklin township where he had settled in 1814. At the corners called for him, he operated a tavern, store and small mill.

KRUMROY Jacob Krumroy, a pioneer of Springfield township, offered $100 in cash if the railroad, then being built, would establish a station and name it for him. The railroad builders, never flush with funds, readily agreed.

LAKEMORE VILLAGE Within the boundaries of *Lakemore Village*, a community in the center of Springfield township, lies a small lake from which the village took its name.

LITTLE YORK In the early days of Northfield township, William Cranney proposed the name, Little York, in honor of his home state. It was not adopted for the township, but it has persisted at *Little York* crossroads.

LOYAL OAK An intriguing name is *Loyal Oak*, but of unknown origin. The pioneers perhaps wanted to commemorate the Charter Oak in which Connecticut's charter was once hidden to prevent seizure by the King's agents in the late 17th century.

MACEDONIA Alexander the Great of ancient times is recalled in the naming of *Macedonia*. Why such a name was given is not recorded. It was possibly imported from Macedon in upstate New York, former home of many settlers.

MANCHESTER In 1815, Mahlon and Aaron Stewart laid out a village and named it for Manchester, England. When a post office was created in *Manchester*, the name, Nimishilla, an Indian word for the nearby stream, was selected to avoid confusion with other Manchesters.

MCARTHUR'S CORNERS This community, which has virtually disappeared from the map in Northampton township, was named for Rial McArthur, one of the early surveyors in the territory.

MAGADORE In the early days of this township, James Robinson, an Irish mason, was building a brick chimney for Martin Kent's new house. Robinson had been reading a book which gave a lively account of the Moroccan city of Mogadore in North Africa. The impression of the tale remained with him, and when he placed the final brick in place at the top of the chimney, he took off his hat, waved it overhead and whooped, "Hurray for Mogadore." At first it was a joke, but the name soon won popular acceptance. Local pride has it that the first bricks ever used for paving were made in *Mogadore* and shipped to Cleveland where they were used in place of cobblestones for paving a street.

MONTROSE *Montrose* was probably named for the wild roses growing on a small hill in this community, located between Bath and Copley townships.

MUNROE FALLS The village of *Munroe Falls*—named for the energetic Munroe brothers, Edmund, William, and George, who started the woolen mill, founded the bank, and platted the village—prospered briefly in the early 1830's. With the Panic of 1837 its prosperity, rooted in the Munroe woolen mill, collapsed. Florence was the original name for Munroe Falls—frequently misspelled Monroe Falls.

MYERSVILLE In northeastern Green township, *Myersville* developed on land owned by Pennsylvanian J. B. Myers.

NORTHFIELD Not much imagination was used in the christening of *Northfield.* Jeremiah Cranmer suggested the name on the grounds that the township was then on the northern edge of Portage County. Settler Isaac Bacon came in 1806 from Boston, Massachusetts.

NORTHAMPTON In 1802 Simeon Prior of Northampton, Massachusetts, brought his wife and ten children to settle on 400 acres he had purchased in the wilderness of the Western Reserve. When a community grew up around his farm it was named to honor his home town in the old Bay State. The first owners of the township, James Harrington and Amos L. Rice, sent out surveyors as early as 1797. The party was led by John Stoddard who brought from Buffalo, New York, a 15-gallon keg of French brandy to be used for getting the job done faster. Whether it did or not is forgotten, but it perhaps accounts for the irregular survey lines that were run at several points in the township. Other settlers were Samuel King, Rial McArthur, Justus Remington, and David Parker.

NORTON Birdsey Norton, proprietor, provided his name for *Norton* township. In 1809 he sent out Joseph Darrow to survey the region. Settlers who followed were James Robinson in 1810 and later, Joseph D. Humphrey, Charles Lyon and Joseph Holmes.

OSBORN CORNERS This crossroads in southwest Richfield township was named for settlers Oscar D. and Asa G. Osborn.

PAXTON In western Copley township, *Paxton* drew its name from Paxton, Massachusetts.

PENINSULA The great bend in the Cuyahoga River that doubled back on itself to form a peninsula of land prompted the name for *Peninsula,* settled in 1806. When the Valley Railroad was built through the community, a narrow part of the peninsula was graded so that the river now flows straight across it, but the name remained the same.

PORTAGE An eight-mile portage path used by the Indians between the Cuyahoga and Tuscarawas Rivers is the story behind the name of Portage township—now included within the city limits of Akron. By the terms of the Treaty of Ft. McIntosh of 1783, this path formed the boundary between United States territory and Indian territory.

RICHFIELD — A weed that grew abundantly in *Richfield* and was beneficial to cattle provided the inspiration for the town's name. The weed, at first called "ox-balm", later became known as "rich-feed". When the township was organized in 1816, the name "rich-feed" was suggested, which was soon changed to *Richfield*.

Proprietors were Benjamin Tallmadge, John Smith, Uriel Holmes, and J. Wilcox. Settlers, led by Launcel T. Mays, began to arrive in 1809.

SAGAMORE HILLS — The modern community of *Sagamore Hills* takes its name from the Indian word for a tribal chief and from the hilly terrain of the area close to the Cuyahoga River.

SILVER LAKE — A romantic incident decided the name of *Silver Lake*—although it took some years for the name to become official. In 1855 two young men were driving their lady companions home to Cuyahoga Falls from a concert at Western Reserve College in Hudson. They were singing loudly when suddenly, around a bend in the road, they came upon a lake shimmering in the moonlight. Stopping the horses, the driver exclaimed in reverential tones, "What bit of paradise is this?" When told it was Stow Lake or Whetmore's Pond, the other young swain, with a flourish of his whip, proclaimed aloud: "Henceforth and forever more, it shall be called *Silver Lake*." Several days later, the two young ladies called on Zenas Culver, owner of the lake. Not wanting for nerve, they told of the incident and asked him to change the name to *Silver Lake*. Culver was obliging enough, but it was a while before the natives became used to the change. Finally in 1874, Ralph Lodge bought the lake from Culver and since then the village and the lake have been known officially and locally as *Silver Lake*.

SPRINGFIELD — Since early records are lost, the origin of the name is obscure. It was likely chosen from a combination of physical features—"spring" and "field". In the drawing of 1798, *Springfield* went to General Nathaniel Shaler of Middletown, Connecticut. Since he already owned Shalersville in Portage County, he sold *Springfield* to Messrs. Olds, Collar, More, Henry and Charles Chittenden. Simon Perkins ran the survey lines in 1806 and a year later Ariel Bradley moved in. Other settlers were Thomas Hale, Benjamin Baldwin, and Reuben Tupper.

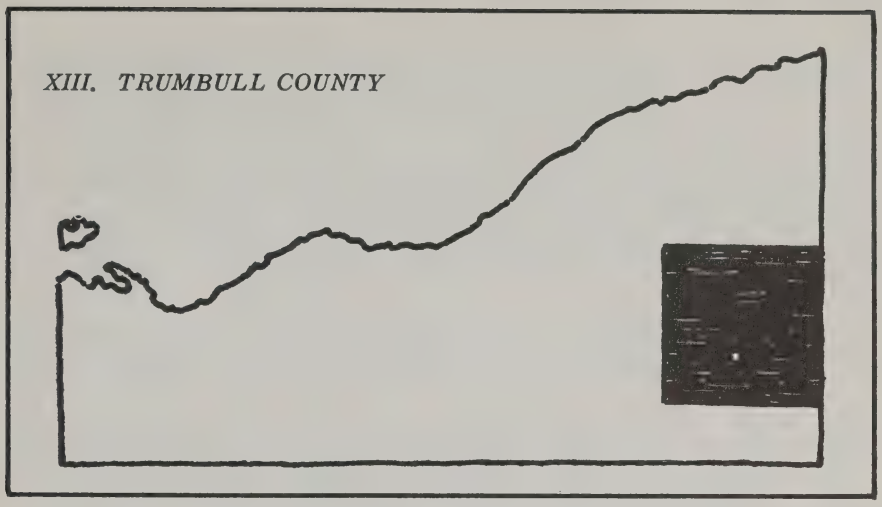
STEELE'S CORNERS — Along Mud Brook in Northampton township, Adam G. Steele operated a mill. *Steele's Corners* —the crossroads near his property—was named for him.

STOW Joshua Stow, a member of Moses Cleaveland's Western Reserve surveying party of 1796, was the man remembered in the naming of *Stow*. In Old England the word "stow" meant "a meeting place" or simply "a place". It most certainly was "a place" that took Joshua's fancy, for after he obtained *Stow* in 1798 he made 13 trips to the township to supervise settlement. Joshua Stow served as commissary in the surveying party and also had a storehouse—Stow's Castle—in Conneaut called in his honor. The first cabin in *Stow* was built in 1802 by William Walker, a squatter. William Whetmore moved in next, followed by John Campbell, Gregory Powers, Adam Steele and David Ruggles. The township was organized in 1808.

TALLMADGE The Connecticut Land Company sold *Tallmadge* township to the Rockwell Land Company, which was owned by Benjamin Tallmadge of Litchfield, Connecticut. When the township was organized in 1812, it was named for its principal proprietor. Survey lines were run by Simon Perkins, and Conrad Boosinger made the first settlement in 1807. When Rev. David Bacon, who was sent out by the Missionary Society of Connecticut, came somewhat later, he bought 12,000 acres and stayed until 1812. Other pioneers were Jonathan Sprague, Ephraim Clark, Titus Chapman and Elizur Wright.

TWINSBURG Remarkable coincidences surround the name of *Twinsburg*. In 1819 Moses and Aaron Wilcox, twins, offered the future village of *Twinsburg* six acres for a public square and $20 toward a school building if the village was named for them. The citizens agreed and were kept in amazement by the two men from that day forward. The Wilcox twins had gone into business together, married sisters on the same day, had the same number of children, and in 1827 both contracted pneumonia from which they died on the same day and were buried in the same grave. The township was first called Millsville for Isaac Mills, an early proprietor-settler. Later residents included Ethan Alling, Elisha Loomis, and E. W. Mather.

WESTERN STAR *Western Star* is the community named for Nathan Starr, an early proprietor who gave one acre to *Western Star* for educational purposes in 1844. The second "r" has been lost over the years, as has the town's first name—Griswold's Corners.



BAILEY'S CORNERS — Isaac Bailey bestowed his name on the community he settled in Lordstown township in 1829.

BAZETTA — The origin of the name *Bazetta* remains a mystery. There is no other place in the world bearing this name, although a Texas community is called Bazette. A descendant of a pioneer *Bazetta* family wrote that she "made a diligent search for a number of years to find the origin but without success". It may simply be the result of a hybrid combination of names.

Original proprietors were David Huntington, Samuel Lord and Samuel Mather, who formed their own company and sent David Wolcott to survey their land. Settlers, who began arriving in 1804, included Edward Schofield, John Budd, Henry Hulse, Joseph Pruden, John Golden and Moses Hampton.

BLOOMFIELD — The name *Bloomfield* was imported from Connecticut when this township was organized in 1816. First proprietor was Peter Chardon Brooks, who held it until 1814 when he sold to Ephraim Brown. Brown and family migrated here and sold land to settlers Leman Ferry, Willard Crowell, Israel Proctor, Samuel Eastman and David Comstock, all from New England.

BRACEVILLE — At first called Millantown for a squatter named Millan, when the township was organized in 1811, it took the name *Braceville* in honor of its proprietor, Jonathan Brace. Other owners included Enoch Perkins, Roger Newberry and Justin Ely. After the land survey, the first lot was sold in 1803 to Francis Free - man. Pioneers included Ralph Freeman, son of Francis, William Moss- man and Samuel Oviatt.

BRISTOL When *Bristol* was organized in 1807, surveyor Alfred Wolcott was authorized to name the township and he chose the name of his home town in Connecticut. Wolcott was also awarded 350 acres for his services. Abraham Baughman was the first settler in 1804 and was joined a year later by his brothers-in-law, Theodore and Samuel Sager, and by his father-in-law, Gabriel Sager, in 1810. The Kagy brothers, Isaac, Abraham, John and Jacob, came shortly thereafter.

BROCKWAY Edward Brockway helped settle *Brockway* in Hartford township and left his name with the community.

BURGHILL Located originally on a hill, the highest point in Vernon township, *Burghill* was named for its geographic elevation. When the Atlantic and Great Western railroad (now Erie) came through the town in the latter 19th century, the business district was moved to be near the railroad, but the name was retained.

CEDAR CORNERS See Seceder's Corners.

CHAMPION Proprietor Henry Champion is honored in the naming of *Champion*. After selling part of the township, he decided to hold the remainder for a rise in the market. He died, however, before it came, and his son, Aristarchus, and son-in-law, Henry C. Trumbull, inherited and divided the land between them. In 1806 they sent a Mr. Cole to survey the region. Permanent settlers, Asa Lane, Andrew Donaldson, William Croninger and Edward Pierce, came about 1810. Township organization occurred in 1831.

CHAMPION HEIGHTS See Champion.

CHAMPION STATION Located on the Youngstown and Ashtabula railroad. See Champion.

CHURCHILL As might be expected, *Churchill* township was named for a church (Presbyterian), built on a nearby hill at the time the township was casting about for a suitable name. When the post office was established in 1833, the name Liberty was requested, but the Post Office Department in Washington rejected it since there already was a Liberty in Ohio. There are now at least five churches in Churchill's vicinity.

CORTLAND Cortland, New York, or possibly the name of an Erie railroad official (Erie's main line was built through *Cortland* in 1859) provided the source of *Cortland's* name. The original settlement was called Baconsburg for Samuel Bacon, a merchant who

opened a store in the town in 1829. *Cortland* was established when the railroad station was built. The two names were used interchangeably until the beginning of the present century.

DELIGHTFULL The early settlers in *Delightfull* in Southington township were obviously "delighted" with their new home.

DILWORTH *Dilworth* was named for a pioneer family in Gustavus township.

EAST FARMINGTON See Farmington.

FARMDALE Of recent origin, this railroad stop in Kinsman township received its name from the rich dairy farming area that it serves.

FARMINGTON First known as Henshaw in honor of its surveyor, when organized in 1817, the township took its name from Farmington, Connecticut, from which many early settlers came. Proprietors were Joseph Bowell, William Edwards, Luther Loomis, John Leavitt, Sylvester Griswold and David, Ebenezer, Timothy and Fidelio King. By 1811 Solomon Bond bought out most of these men and hired Luther Henshaw for surveying. Pioneers in 1806 included Lewis Wolcott, David Curtis, Elihu Morse and Josiah Wolcott.

FOWLER Originally known as Westfield for the Massachusetts home town of the proprietor, upon organization in 1807 the township took the name of proprietor Samuel Fowler himself. Abner Fowler, the proprietor's brother, was given 100 acres for surveying the land and became the first settler in 1799. By 1805 Levi Foote, Lemuel Barnes, John Morrow and Hillman Fisher had come to the region.

GIRARD Stephen Girard, merchant prince, philanthropist and founder of Girard College for orphans in Philadelphia, was commemorated in the naming of *Girard*. The community was settled about 1800 but remained undeveloped until 1837 when the building of the Ohio and Pennsylvania Canal from Niles to Girard brought an influx of migrants. Coal fields contributed to the town's growth in the late 19th century, and steel became the city's principal industry in the 20th.

GREENE Mssrs. Parkman and Greene of Boston, Massachusetts, were proprietors of *Greene*, and the township was named for the latter. General Simon Perkins served as land agent, and in 1819 settlers John and William Harrington, John Wakefield, Ephraim Rice, Roswell Bartlett and Ichabod Merritt moved in.

GREENSBURG Located at the head of Mosquito Creek Reservoir, *Greensburg* is probably named for its verdant environs.

GUSTAVUS *Gustavus* is named, not for a Swedish king, but for the son of Lemuel Storrs, the first proprietor of the township. Josiah Pelton, the first settler in 1800, offered 100 acres to the first woman who would move into the township. His son, Jesse, thereupon persuaded Ruhamah DeWolf of Granby, Connecticut, to marry him and together they made the long trek to the Buckeye country in 1802.

HARTFORD This township was organized in 1811 under the name of *Hartford*, Connecticut home town of the first settler, Edward Brockway, who traded a 200-acre New England farm for 3,194 acres here. Urial Holmes and Ephraim Root had purchased *Hartford* in 1798 for 75¢ per acre. Other settlers were Titus Brockway, brother of Edward, Isaac Jones and Asahel Brainerd.

HOWLAND James Howland purchased *Howland* township for $24,000 and thereby immortalized his own name when the township was organized in 1812. Settlers included Captain John Adgate, John Earl, Michael Pelts, John Daily, James Ward and John Reeves.

HUBBARD Nehemiah Hubbard, Jr., drew *Hubbard* township in the 1798 drawing of the Connecticut Land Company, and his name was remembered upon its incorporation as a village in 1868. Samuel Tylee served as land agent; settlers were William Burnett and Tylee's brother Sylvester. Coal-mining and steel-making contributed to the development of the community.

JOHNSTON *Johnston* was named for its proprietor, Captain James Johnston. Nathan Moore surveyed the land in 1802, and Captain James Bradley, a friend of Johnston's, became the first purchaser and settler in 1803. Other pioneers were Jared Hill, Zebulon Walker and James Skinner, who built the township's first saw mill. The township was officially organized in 1816.

KENILWORTH CORNERS Local legend holds that Sir Walter Scott's famous novel inspired the name.

KINSMAN John Kinsman, who bought an $8,938-interest in *Kinsman* township and then bought out the $4,838-interest of Uriah Tracy and Joseph Coit, gave his name to this township. Alfred Wolcott ran the survey lines, and in 1801 Kinsman brought Ebenezer Reeve with him to his new land. They made clearings, built log cabins and then returned to Connecticut. The first actual settlers in 1802 were

Martin Todd, James Hill, David Randall and Ebenezer Reeve. Clarence Darrow, famous criminal lawyer, attended the academy at *Kinsman*.

KLONDIKE *Klondike* was named at the time of the Klondike gold rush in 1897.

LATIMER Since *Latimer* is located at the junction of several railroad lines in southeastern Johnston township, it was likely named for a railroad executive.

LEAVITTSBURG John Leavitt planned a village in western Warren township in 1800 and laid out the town square. For such industry the small farming community that resulted was named for him. Brothers Samuel and Enoch Leavitt aided in the settlement. The Erie railroad built through *Leavittsburg* in 1860 contributed to its growth.

LIBERTY When *Liberty* separated from Hubbard township and was officially organized in 1806, the settlers from Pennsylvania and Virginia were so delighted over being free of Yankee influence that they called their new township *Liberty*. Settlers Jacob and Henry Swager, James Matthew and John Stull had arrived in 1798. In 1860 coal, discovered on Alexander McCleary's farm, brought the formation of the Church Hill Coal Company. Mining operations here led to the rise of manufacturing at nearby Girard with a resulting population increase.

LOCKWOOD Near a railroad station a mile east of Bloomfield in Green township there developed a community with no name of its own. After rural free delivery service came to the Reserve, a post office was installed in the un-named town's general store. One day around the store's cracker barrel the leading citizens discussed possible names for their town and among the group was a Mr. Finney, salesman for the Youngstown Dry Goods Company. Looking through his book of samples, he called out the name "Lockwood", a brand name for bed sheets. Oddly enough the name appealed to the others and was officially adopted.

LORDSTOWN In 1798 Samuel Lord of Lyme, Connecticut, acquired *Lordstown* from the Connecticut Land Company. When his land agent reported that the property was as fertile as that in Connecticut, Lord gave his name to the township but refused to sell land. His hopes for a rise in price, which never came, delayed settlement for twenty years. Finally Henry Thorn came in 1822 and John and Robert Tait in 1824.

MASURY *Masury* received its name from a Polish family living in the region.

MCDONALD *McDonald* took its name from an early pioneer family.

MECCA The original Mecca was, of course, in Arabia. The settlers of the Reserve's *Mecca* hoped their new town would become the "mecca" or center for this region, and they had good cause to hope when oil was discovered in their *Mecca* in 1859. Speculators rushed in from all parts of the country to take out leases, land prices shot sky high and a village called Dixie was established. Hundreds of wells were sunk and so were thousands of dollars. The bubble soon burst, however, leaving many holding a dry hole.

Turhand Kirtland and William Ely were the first proprietors. Although Kirtland established easy terms, sales were slow. It was 1811 before Joseph Dawson moved in as the first settler. In 1813 Dawson's father-in-law, John Rose, arrived, and in his wake came Lemuel Hickok, Martin Daniels, Samuel Phillips and Joseph Headly.

MESOPOTAMIA *Mesopotamia* was so named because of the similarity of the township's location between the Grand and Cuyahoga Rivers to the ancient land between the Tigris and Euphrates in the Middle East. Pierpont Edwards became proprietor in 1798, appointed his son John as land agent, and attracted settlers by giving 100 acres of land to the first five married couples and 50 acres to the first five bachelors to move in. The first five married pioneers were Hezekiah Sperry, Otis Guild, Joseph Noyes, Joseph Clark and Seth Tracy—all settled by 1801. The township was organized in 1819.

MINERAL RIDGE The coal mines of *Mineral Ridge* suggested the name. The first mine opened in 1835, and village incorporation took place in 1871.

NEWTON *Newton's* name is a simplification of Newtown, Connecticut, home of many pioneers. Proprietors in 1798 were Jonathan Brace, Justin Ely and Elijah White. Ely and White sold their interest to Roger Newberry, Enoch Perkins and Brace. In 1800 Jesse Halliday discovered the rapids on Duck Creek and thereupon built a mill. He also opened a road to Warren. Early *Newton* residents were Alexander Sutherland, Robert Caldwell, William Stanley and Ezekiel Hoover. Township organization took place in 1808.

NEWTON FALLS See Newton for name details. Judson Canfield purchased *Newton Falls* along the Mahoning River in 1807. In its early years the village was a business rival of nearby Warren but was soon outstripped by Warren's rapid growth. By the late 19th century the Hydro-Electric and Gas Company established mill sties along the river and built plants to supply power to the communities of the valley. Settlers were John Lane, who built the first cabin, Bildad Hine and Benjamin Yale.

NILES James Heaton, a settler in 1806, chose the name *Niles* in honor of Hezekiah *Niles*, editor of *Niles Weekly Register*, published at Baltimore. Heaton was an avid reader of the *Register* and often quoted from it. Nearby deposits of coal, iron ore and limestone brought the establishment of Heaton's furnace and forge which turned out the first bar iron, stove castings, irons and kettles west of the Appalachians. Heaton also built a grist mill in 1806, which is still standing. The furnace was most important, however, and *Niles* was known for years as Heaton's Furnace. The village was incorporated in 1864. The following decades saw a steady growth with the building of iron works, furnaces, nail and boiler factories. The first tin plate in the country was rolled at *Niles*. William McKinley settled in *Niles* where his son William, destined to President of the United States, was born in 1843.

NORTH BLOOMFIELD See Bloomfield.

NORTH BRISTOL See Bristol.

NUTWOOD Not for a village character, but for a large number of hickory trees in the vicinity, *Nutwood* was named.

OAKFIELD Oak trees provided the obvious inspiration for naming *Oakfield*.

OHLTOWN Michael Ohl was the first settler of *Ohltown*. After he built a grist mill and saw mill in 1815, the community took his name.

ORANGEVILLE The records do not reveal, but the name of this community may have been taken from Orange, Connecticut, or from the Dutch House of Orange. Jacob Loutzenhiser, a Pennsylvania German, built a saw mill in *Orangeville* in 1801.

PAYNE'S CORNERS Located on the edge of Vienna township, this community was settled by and named for Solomon Payne in the early 19th century.

PHALANX *Phalanx* began as a part of the utopian community movement of the mid-19th century when its 500 acres were purchased in 1846 by 150 settlers under the name of the Trumbull Phalanx Company. The members of the company bought the flour mill Eli Barnum had built in 1811 and constructed a tannery, wooden bowl factory and shoe factory. They operated on a communitarian basis with all property held in common. *Phalanx* residents lived in a long frame tenement house and sent their children to a common school, which was

also used for religious services. The community disbanded after four years, but the name remained at the *Phalanx* post office, station and mills.

PRICETOWN — Along the Mahoning River at *Princetown*, Jesse Halliday built a mill. Later when he sold it to Robert Price, the settlement took the name of the new owner.

SECEDERS CORNERS — Also known as Cedars Corners, this community derives its name from a church dispute that led one faction of the congregation to secede from one church and establish another church at *Seceders Corners*.

SOAPTOWN — Although the records give no indication, *Soaptown's* name was likely inspired by a soap works, which must have been operated here in the early years.

SODOM — During a temperance crusade in 1840, a Dr. Fisher gave a fire-and-brimstone lecture at nearby Church Hill community. So moved were his listeners that he was asked to give another lecture in the school house at what is now *Sodom*. When the response at the school house was not as enthusiastic as Fisher expected, he jokingly declared "that locality was a perfect Sodom". And the name stuck. Settlement here increased after coal mines were opened in 1865.

SOUTHINGTON — Organized in 1817, *Southington* was named for the Connecticut home town of many of the pioneers. Justin Ely was one of the proprietors. Luke Viets, the first pioneer, arrived in 1805, to be followed two years later by James Nutt, James Chalker and Roderick and Horace Norton.

SPOKANE — This station on the Youngstown and Ashtabula railroad likely drew its name from Spokane, Washington.

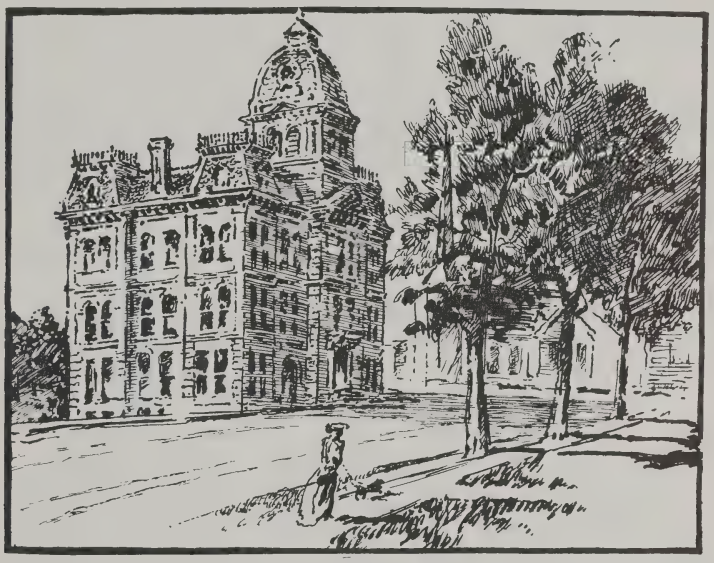
STROUP'S CROSSING — Honoring the pioneer Stroup family, *Stroup's Crossing* is located where the Baltimore and Ohio railroad crosses what is locally known as the county line turnpike.

TYRELL — Twin brothers, Elijah and Ebijah Tyrell, early farmers in the vicinity, had this community named for themselves.

VERNON — Organized in 1806, this town drew its name from Vernon, Connecticut. Proprietors Gideon Granger and Jeremiah Wilcox opened the land for settlement as early as 1798, when Thomas Giddings and Martin Smith arrived by canoe from Pittsburgh.

VIENNA Records that might have explained the origin of this name no longer exist. It seems probable that the name came from Vienna, New York. Uriel Holmes, Ephraim Root and Timothy Burr were proprietors in 1798. Settlers Isaac Flower and Dennis Palmer arrived in 1799. Five years later six others came on the scene—Isaac Woodford, Joel and Isaac Humason, Simeon Wheeler, Seth Bartholomew and Samuel Clinton. The township was officially organized in 1806.

WARREN In 1800 Ephraim Quinby, an early proprietor, platted a village here and named it for General Moses Warren, Revolutionary War veteran of Lyme, Connecticut, who had served in Moses Cleaveland's surveying party of 1796. As early as 1788,



25,000 acres in the *Warren* area were sold to General Samuel H. Parsons, one of the original judges of the Northwest Territory. Parsons died, however, before he could develop the region, known as the "Salt Tract". Connecticut recovered title to the land and sold it to the Connecticut Land Company which in turn passed title to Ebenezer King in 1798. King sold to Ephraim Quinby and Richard Storer of Washington County, Pennsylvania. These men, in company with William Fenton and Francis Carlton, brought their families here in the spring of 1799.

When Trumbull County was erected in 1800, *Warren* became the county seat and the first court was held between Quinby's corn cribs August 25, 1800. General Simon Perkins, sales agent for the Connecticut Land Company, became Warren's first postmaster, when the Pittsburgh-Cleveland postal route opened in 1801. Quinby Park and Perkins Park honor these early founders. The Western Reserve Bank, first bank in the Reserve, and Thomas D. Webb's *Trump of Fame*, the

Reserve's first newspaper, began operations in 1811. Incorporated as a village in 1834, *Warren's* prosperity grew with the opening of the Pennsylvania-Ohio canal in 1840 and with the later development of the coal and iron industry. *Warren* officially became a city in 1869.

WEATHERSFIELD — Organized in 1809, *Weathersfield* took its name from Weathersfield, Connecticut. As noted under Warren, Samuel H. Parsons received the land here in 1788. After establishing a salt works at Weathersfield, Parsons drowned at Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania, on his way back to Connecticut. The first settler, Reuben Harmon, arrived in 1799 and reopened the Parsons salt works.

WEST FARMINGTON — See Farmington.

YANKEE LAKE VILLAGE — Although of recent origin, this town bears a name indicating the continuing strong influence of New Englanders in Ohio's Western Reserve.

XIV. NAMES IN RETROSPECT

The choosing of names is a problem that plagues all kinds of people—from new parents to dog owners to real estate promoters. Names, even though becoming so commonplace through usage that we think little of them as we repeat them, are convenient handles for identifying persons, animals and places. But they are more than that. They are expressions of the whole range of human nature, the loves, fears, desires, hates, hopes, aspirations, discouragements of men.

The story told above has been of the names of places. Obviously, places do not name themselves. Places get names only as men associate with places. And the names men choose for the places they inhabit testify to men's hopes and expectations, dreams and aspirations, reverences and remembrances, struggles and failures, disappointments and heartbreaks, successes and triumphs, joys and jokes. They mirror the gamut of human attitudes and emotions toward themselves, other persons and nature itself. Here lies the pattern of men's lives as they occupied the new, smiling countryside along Lake Erie's south shore in Ohio's Western Reserve. Nature gave the shape and wealth to the land men settled. But the men themselves pinned the names on the places of their dwelling. For all who came after, these names would determine their mode of thinking and speaking in relation to their environment.

Forerunners of the white men in the green wilderness that was Ohio a century and a half ago left their stamp on the land. Indian names were attached to rivers and bodies of water when white men arrived. These were the landmarks (or watermarks) by which the red men lived, traveled and communicated. Witness Ashtabula, Huron and Mahoning. A few aboriginal names were adopted even by towns and villages, though oddly enough, for far-away tribes such as Catawba and Pawnee, while Sandusky and Cuyahoga Falls are descriptive of nature. White settlers, too, often applied descriptive names to their settlements. Witness Lakewood, Maple Heights, Greenfield, Ridgeville, Vermilion, Mineral Ridge, Bay View, Brook Park, Peninsula, Valley City, Fairport and Cold Spring.

But more frequently men's vanity or pride led them to christen towns for themselves. Or admiration for the accomplishments or position of other men introduced names of famous leaders—usually leaders in politics or war. Strangely enough, George Washington, whose name alone or in combination is commemorated in more American town names than any other, received no notice in the Reserve. But Washington's elder contemporary, Ben Franklin (whose name alone appears over more post office doors than any other, understandably since he was America's first postmaster) was remembered twice in the Reserve, while presidents Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Jackson and Garfield also won notice. Many lesser politicians like Joshua Giddings, Thomas Hart Benton, Gideon Granger, Oliver Ellsworth and Jonathan Trumbull were

honored, Military and naval heroes were held in esteem at Amherst, Perry, Wayne, and Bainbridge, while clergyman Jean Frederic Oberlin, editor Hezekiah Niles, merchant Stephen Girard and railroader Daniel Willard were immortalized. Even foreign figures like Chancellor Bismarck, Baron Von Steuben and General Lafayette were given recognition.

Most owners of townships, obtained in the drawing of Connecticut Land Company lands and in the distribution of the Firelands, succeeded in having a township named for them. Sometimes, however, the actual settlers, irritated by high land prices charged by the proprietor, changed the name, and the proprietor lost his claim to fame. Thus towns and cities were named for proprietors and large sharholders in the Connecticut Land Company like Moses Cleaveland, Elijah Boardman, Eliphalet Austin (Austinburg), Titus Street (Streetsboro), Joshua Stow and Nehemiah Hubbard. Not always did the largest owner or biggest investor get the most important town named after him. Cliver Phelps, with the largest single investment of $168,185 in the Company's enterprise, and Robert C. Johnson with $60,000 suffered the fate of being uncommemorated, while Pierpont Edwards with $60,000 and Henry Champion with $85,675 left their names with communities that have remained small to this day.

Curiously enough, outside of Cleveland, the larger cities of the Reserve bear names other than those of members of the charmed circle within the Connecticut Land Company. Actual settlers came in for well-deserved credit—Edward Paine at Painesville, John Young at Youngstown, Heman Ely at Elyria, surveyor Moses Warren at Warren and Ohio Columbus Barber at Barberton, while Akron and Sandusky assumed names of Greek and Indian origin. Other settlers achieved lasting notice at Brecksville, Kent, Garrettsville, Hudson, Warrensville, Bronson, Fitchville, Kinsman and many lesser places.

As often as not settlers who chose the town's name (usually at the first town meeting) remembered with pleasure, or perhaps with nostalgic regret, the communities they had left in the East. Quite naturally, Connecticut place names were repeated most often. New Haven, Hartford, Norwalk, New London, Danbury, Greenwich, Bristol, Farmington, Windham, Norwich, Sheffield, Hambden and Lyme read like a veritable atlas of the Nutmeg State. Up-state New York, peopled largely by New Englanders, stands second to Connecticut in contributing town names to the Reserve—Auburn, Albany, Cortland, Rochester, Cherry Valley, Palmyra and even Brooklyn and York itself. Many Massachusetts place names, repeated in Connecticut, were repeated again in the Reserve, like Plymouth and Groton, but some Bay State names migrated directly, like Boston, Deerfield, Pittsfield, Westfield, Northampton, Weymouth, Andover and Marblehead, while Amherst reached Ohio after a side trip to New Hampshire.

The namers of Western Reserve places, however, did not suffer from horizons limited to their own nation. Thus places like Denmark, Russia, Peru, Macedonia, Mesopotamia, Leon, Orange and Brunswick

and even the islands of Mann and Ceylon won notice thousands of miles away. When it came to foreign cities, the flights of fancy constitute a grand tour of western Europe and the Mediterranean, with a bit of Latin America thrown in for good measure—Liverpool, Birmingham, York, Oxford, Abbeyville, Paris, Ghent, Geneva, Berlin, Vienna, Rome, Florence, Milan, Ravenna, Lodi, Mantua, Venice, Seville, Gibraltar, Mogadore, Mecca, Medina, Palmyra, Klondike and Havana.

The Bible was not overlooked, although these descendants of the Puritans might well have been expected to consult it more often than they did in choosing their place names. But Berea, Hiram, Padanaram, and Sodom carry the Biblical stamp. Classical times contributed Troy, Delphi, Gastalia, River Styx, Solon, Mentor and even Homer and Euclid.

The imprint of the democratic heritage appears on the map at Freedon, Liberty, and Columbia. But the selection of names with such monarchical trappings as Leroy and Kingsville leaves cause for wonder over those early days of the Republic.

And certainly there were jokers among those who gave the names, as Soaptown, Novelty, Delightfull and Industry testify, while the ever-present surburban suffix of "Heights" bears witness to the exuberant real estate promoter's capacity to make a mountain out of a mole hill. Recurring usage sometimes did odd things to the names: Eddysburg became Edinburg; Seceders Corners turned into Cedar Corners; while Pudding Bay emerged as Put-in-Bay.

In these names stands the record of the Reserve. The natural setting of land and water, the ambitious promoters of the Connecticut Land Company, the opportunity-seeking settlers, the speculators and real estate operators, the Bible readers and students of the classics, the dreamers of far-away lands and cities, the lovers of democracy and its leaders, the developers of commerce and industry—all are here. The namers chose names of practical utility, names of honor, names of infinite variety and names sounding pleasant to the ear. As one stands in Cleveland's Public Square viewing the sturdy statue of Moses Cleaveland against the backdrop of the New York Central's terminal tower, or as one gazes out from under the elms at the neat white church on Twinsburg's green, or as one admires the clean simplicity of the chapel at Hudson's Western Reserve Academy, the feeling grows that the name-makers of a century and a half ago chose wisely and well for their "Yankeeland-on-Lake-Erie".

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